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Vol. CCV, No. 2669
APRIL 7, 1951

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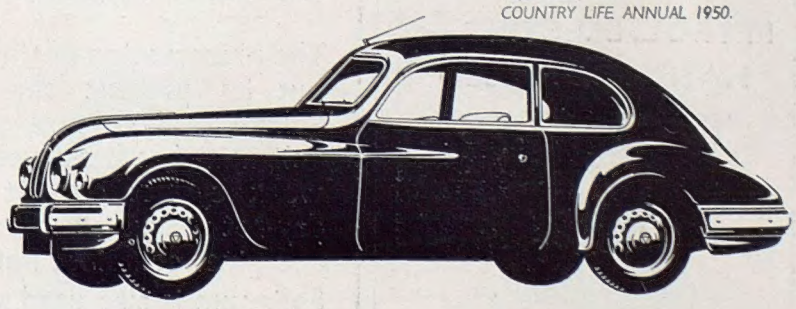

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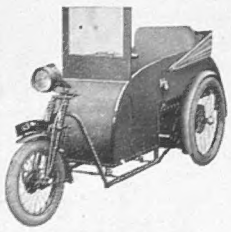

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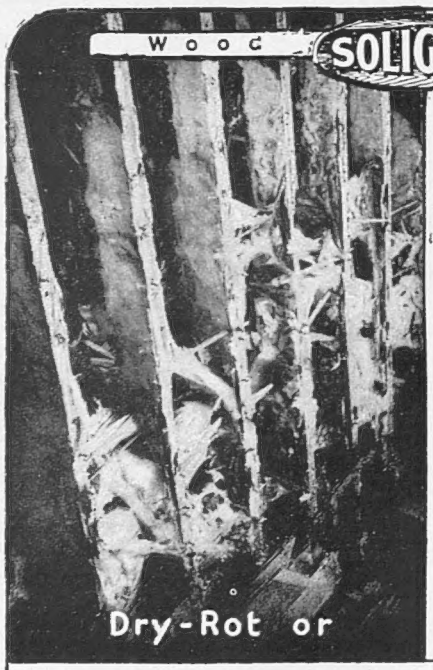

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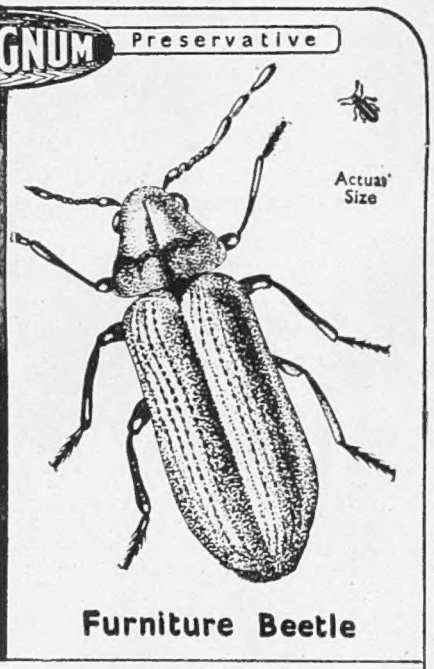

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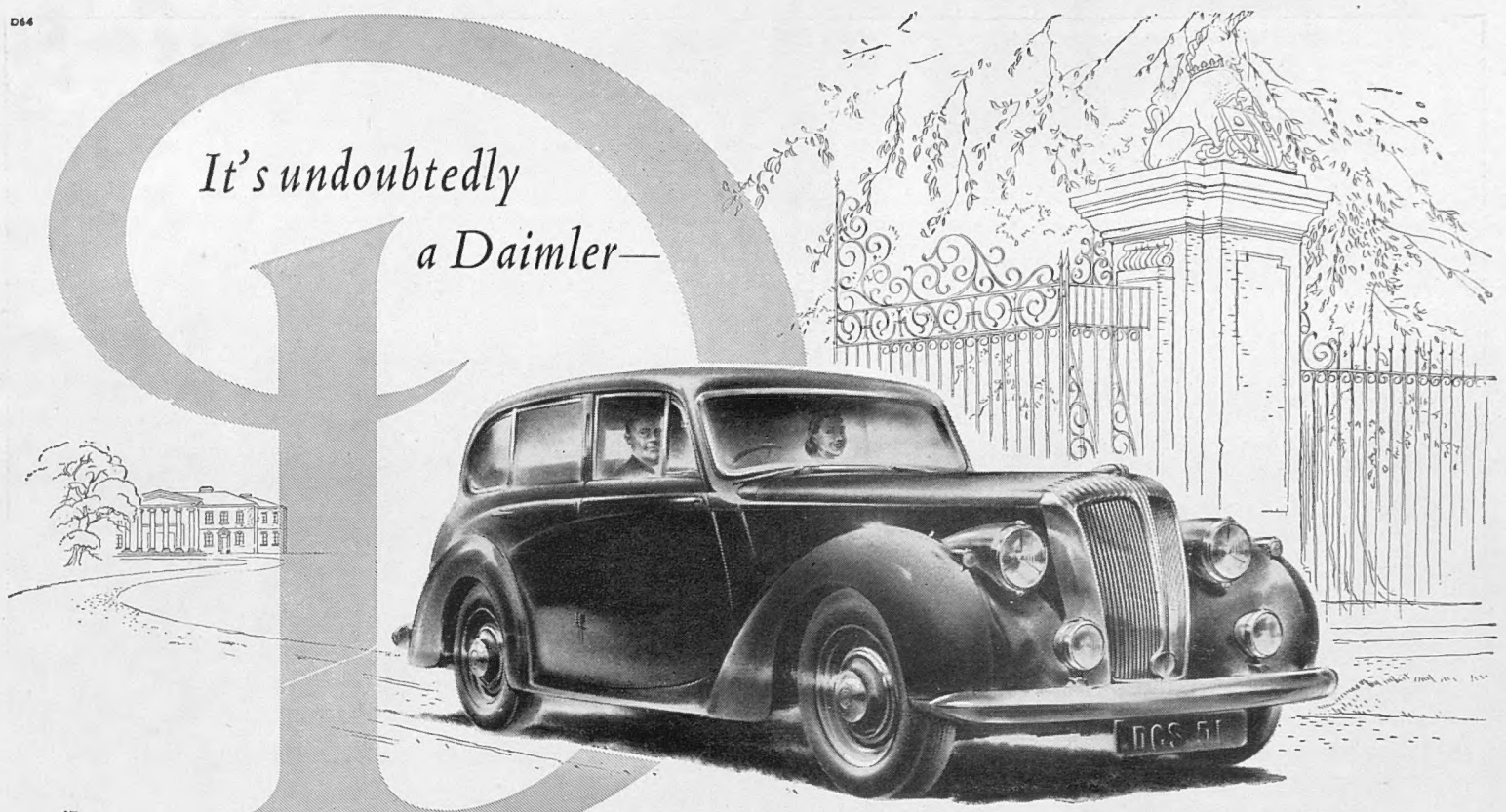

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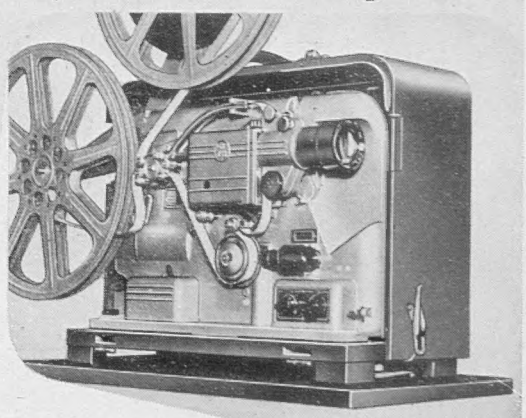

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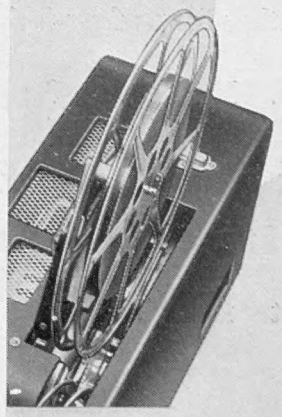

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ICI

Volume CCV No. 2669 The SPHERE, London, April 7, 1951

The SPHERE
WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED "THE GRAPHIC"
THE EMPIRE'S ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY

PRESIDENT AURIOL IN WASHINGTON—THE HEAD OF THE FRENCH STATE SEEN WITH MADAME AURIOL, M. HENRI BONNET, THE FRENCH AMBASSADOR, AND MADAME BONNET PRIOR TO A DINNER GIVEN AT THE FRENCH EMBASSY IN HONOUR OF PRESIDENT AND MRS. TRUMAN: President Auriol, after receiving a vociferous New York welcome when landing from the *Ile de France* (see page 10 of this issue), journeyed at once to Washington with his entourage, where he started upon a round of official engagements, including an address to the Foreign Ministers of the "Good Neighbour" nations.

Not since the visit of King George and Queen Elizabeth in 1939 has America extended such a welcome to visitors from abroad as it did last week to President and Madame Auriol, starting with the usual land, sea and air jubilations in New York Harbour and the official greetings of Mr. Grover Whalen, whose task it is to dispense civic goodwill to the great. Later in the day there was another big welcome at the Union Station in Washington, where President Truman, Mrs. Truman and members of the American Cabinet were present. Following the arrival in Washington, there was a parade through the beflagged streets of 5,000 representatives of the Services, and on the first evening President Truman entertained his guests to a banquet at a Washington hotel, the White House being still under repair. On the following evening M. Auriol and Madame Auriol were host and hostess to the American President and Mrs. Truman at the French Embassy. Perhaps the most remarkable feature of the visit was the invitation to President Auriol to address the meeting of North, Central and South American Foreign Ministers. In view of France's colonial interests in the American hemisphere the invitation was somewhat unexpected, as also was M. Auriol's forthright speech to the delegates, which scorned the easy generalities which might have been expected on such an occasion.

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A LONDON NEWSLETTER

1, NEW OXFORD STREET, W.C.1.

Wanted: A Change of Luck.

—A prime cause of the very generally expressed admiration for Mr. Bevin was that for years he struggled on in office against ill-health and ill-fortune. Mr. Churchill himself called him one of our greatest Foreign Secretaries—a mighty claim indeed. On the same ground, Sir Stafford was lauded as one of our greatest Chancellors. Obviously, Mr. Attlee, if he broadcast practically from a hospital bed, can rely on public sentiment according him the same admiration for carrying on by sheer will-power, when "brain and sinew" no longer could stand the strain. Let us be frank to brutality, or at least to realism. The times demand more than grit in statesmen. Bodily fitness is essential, so is a great measure of success. I believe sincerely (with no party bias) that in the past year or more public feeling has changed very remarkably, and to-day I think the bulk of the nation is much less interested in party issues and much more concerned with stability in Government and a new national mandate, in the hope that these may bring about a change of luck. It would be monstrous superstition to blame the Government for most of our misfortunes. But for many shortages and wastages and discontents we are entitled to blame them, as Governments have always been blamed; a score of Governments have in the past been brought down by failures far less serious. As these failures accumulate, the public mind, which, after all, has not the analytical faculty of a Bertrand Russell, begins to ask itself whether a change of Government might not change the luck. Without directly calling Mr. Attlee a "Jonah," or a captain of "Jonahs," it has come to feel there is a "Jonah" on the bridge somewhere, and it would like an opportunity to sort out its executives. For the roar of the breakers is very audible.

Once More into the Breach.

—Rather too short a breathing-space (I thought). The Easter holiday went not too brightly and all too quickly. The hectic week before it had *settled* nothing. Behind us tanglewood, before us tanglewood. The Foreign Ministers' deputies had argued and recriminated in vain. No progress there. The war in Korea ebbed and flowed round the Parallel. No decision, political or military, there. The dog-fight at Westminster was called off for a breathing space. Nothing settled there. The politicians, not taken to hospital, return still panting and licking their wounds, to consider the same insoluble, intolerable problems and crises, and the only new and lighter interlude before them and us is the explication of Mr. Gaitskell's selection of new burdens to be laid on our shoulders for the new financial year. In truth, we could all have done with a longer and a sunnier interval of rest in the jungle-clearing. We came to it stale from the universal stalemate, we return to the stalemate . . . stale. Who will show us any good? Not the statesmen whose stature forever shrinks. We must look to miracles. For my part, I keep my eye on that part of the grey sky behind which the sun is supposed to be. If it blinked and began to warm up, it is just possible we might regain the courage and the common sense to remember that we were once free men. If the sun came out, it is just possible it might melt the glue which clamps us body and soul in apathy and robotism. Counting the blessings which Socialist rule have brought us may help us to indulge in an apathetic kind of complacency. If we get down to catalogue all the things which we have lost or thrown overboard since 1945, we might well become less complacent and remember the robust individualism and even truculence of our fathers. They were not prone to be fobbed off with shoddy in men or measures or merchandise. They had a word for it and spoke it with their boots.

A Peace Conference.

—The autumn leaves were still falling when the Foreign Ministers' deputies first met at the Palais Rose to explore all avenues with a view to finding one just clear enough of snags and debris to allow the bigger four to reach a meeting-place, a glade in the forest. The deputies have been talking ever since and made practically no progress until, after Easter, M. Gromyko, when the Westerners had practically abandoned hope, conceded something (gesture or formula) which seemed worth a further careful study. What that slightly-changed wording of an incidental formula implies is hardly worth careful examination. This preliminary bout is a mere sparring for position. The game is one of face-saving in part, in part of getting a good position for a more important bout. Leaves are coming back on the trees again, and still the avenue remains to be found and a passage hacked through it; not a passage to a peace settlement but a passage for four men (one at least new to the work) to begin the job of exploring avenues to find an avenue, just clear enough of snags and debris, by which an army of experts can begin the work of clearing away some of the snags, etc. . . . ! A peace settlement, in short, seems as far away as ever it was. There was a moment in 1814 when it seemed a possibility. There was a moment in 1925 (Locarno). In each case it was *breve gaudium*. But in those days at least the principals managed to meet each other without months of pioneer work by *avant-couriers* seeking a track in the jungle capable of bringing them to the clearing. Now it seems their reluctance to meet is the measure of their sincerity for peace. Drunk with words and formulæ, perhaps the statesmen of the world could not endure existence on the cold water and dry bread of decisions and agreements. What peace, so long, etc. . . . ?

Eastern Approaches.

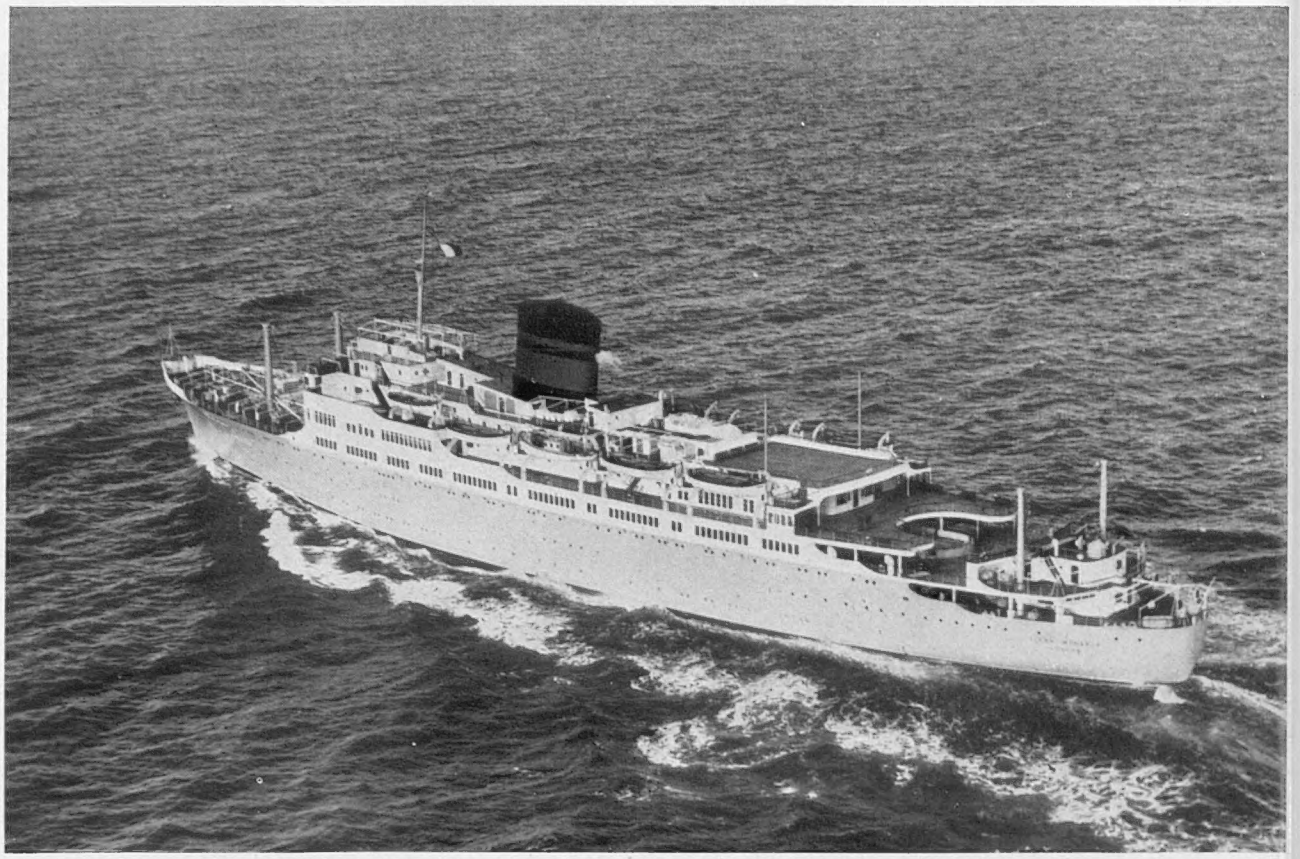
—It is no doubt true that Tito's five-year plan was devised on the basis that it would be financed, or at least machined, by the Soviet Union on a basis of exchange of finished products against food and raw materials. But then came the quarrel and the great drought. Russia refused to play and Tito had no food to export. So Tito turned West, and the West responded and will again respond with credits and food and the means to mechanise. It all costs us money, of course. Will it pay a dividend or go down the drain with the ground nuts? What is in Tito's mind? I turned again to that extraordinary war book by Fitzroy MacLean, *Eastern Approaches*, that up-to-date Ruritanian romance with its close-ups of Churchill and Tito and a hundred more figures of romance stranger than fiction. From his first contact with Tito, MacLean put the note of interrogation. It might be expedient (to win the late war) to dish the Cetniks and support the partisans, but, if Tito was a declared and 100-per-cent. Communist, which way would he jump after the war on the wings of our support with arms and money? MacLean put it to Churchill; both saw the risk. Expediency won the day and helped to win the war in Italy. But even during the height of Allied assistance to Tito, his secret visit to Moscow raised Western doubts again. For years after 1945, the note of interrogation remained after Tito's name. To-day Tito's look to the West is more than a furtive glance. It certainly looks as if Russia had committed a major blunder in her diplomacy in relation to Tito, who could quite coolly resist the blandishments of the West throughout and long after the war (though glad to have and to keep the wedding presents), and only began to offer us a mild embrace when finally jilted by Russia. But the note of interrogation is even now not entirely erased.

Potted Pickwick.

—I am one of those who dispute the maxim "once a classic always a classic." I do not believe (for example) that *Moby Dick* should still retain its place among the "100 best books" and be forced down the throats of a posterity which lives, thinks and recreates itself in ways unknown to our ancestors. But still to-day for discerning readers who can put themselves into the skins of past eras, the humours and the genius of long dead authors can bring out the same appeal; and still the essential quality of the giants—their trueness to that part of human nature which does not change keeps their writings as fresh as when first published — from Chaucer to Shakespeare, from Rabelais to Jane Austen. The danger lies, and has always lain, in tampering with these classics, in seeking to "improve" them, alter them, truncate them, to suit the more impatient and critical minds of our hectic era. We are all too familiar with the Hollywood genius for "improvement." We are getting used to the B.B.C. methods which hitherto have been rather more reverent, if not always very attractive. The B.B.C. claim to have popularised Trollope through its readings. If it did so, *Orley Farm* certainly provided an acid test. When it decided to lay violent hands on *Pickwick*, the B.B.C. must have known that it would be meeting trouble more than half-way. It did. It produced a roar of anger from the *Thunderer*. It so "improved" Dickens that nothing was heard through the yawns of the listeners and the crackle of the box but the genius of the adapter, calculated to send Dickens out of fashion for a period as long as his years of popularity. I am unbiased, not being a Dickens fan. My criticism of most of the B.B.C. readings and drama is that they last too long by 25 per cent. or 50 per cent. I am not at all sure that this new medium—which is entitled to spend years in experimenting—will prove fit for adaptations of work written for other conditions and media. But quite certainly it will not do to present the work of men of genius "improved" by mediocrities and amateurs.

Coals to Newcastle.

—The miners in a certain coal centre laughed to watch the dockers unloading coal from America and India in their port. They laughed because there is plenty of coal still under Britain's crust. The Ski Jumping Committee wept when they were told that they must pay Customs duties on the snow they were importing from Norway for ski-jumping exhibitions at Hampstead and Edinburgh. Hell (they said)! There 's plenty of snow in Scotland and England. And if we had had faith as a grain of mustard-seed in the black-thorn winter, we should have relied on our own native product. Faith is not necessarily "the substance of things hoped for"—and with that many who chose the seaside for their first open-air holiday of the year, warmly, or not so warmly, agreed. It was just another instance of the filthy luck which pursues us in all our undertakings. THE OLD STAGER



A POTENTIAL DOLLAR-EARNER IN THE CARIBBEAN—THE "OCEAN MONARCH" UNDERGOES HER TRIALS BEFORE SETTING OUT ON HER MAIDEN ATLANTIC VOYAGE: Britain's new 13,658-ton luxury liner, which has been built by Vickers-Armstrong for the owners, the Furness Withy line, has been designed as the "ideal ship" for cruising from the port of New York to the West Indies and to the ports of the St. Lawrence and Newfoundland. She will also assist the *Queen of Bermuda* in carrying American holiday-makers on the New York-Bermuda route. The £2,500,000 *Ocean Monarch* has one class (First) accommodation for 430 passengers, who will have the advantage of every seaborne comfort. She is scheduled to sail for New York on April 17, and her maiden voyage to Bermuda and Nassau will begin on May 3.

"WITH BEST WISHES"

THOSE in search of a gift for friends, either at home or overseas, will find that a year's subscription to THE SPHERE provides an ideal solution. Each week, the new copy will be a fresh reminder of the kind thought and good wishes of the friend at home. Orders for subscriptions for THE SPHERE to be sent overseas can now be taken. They should be addressed: The Subscription Department, THE SPHERE, Commonwealth House, 1, New Oxford Street, London, W.C.1, together with the name and address of the person to whom the copies are to be sent, and enclosing the subscription. Inland, £5 16s. Canada, £5. Elsewhere abroad, £5 5s. (to include the Christmas Number).

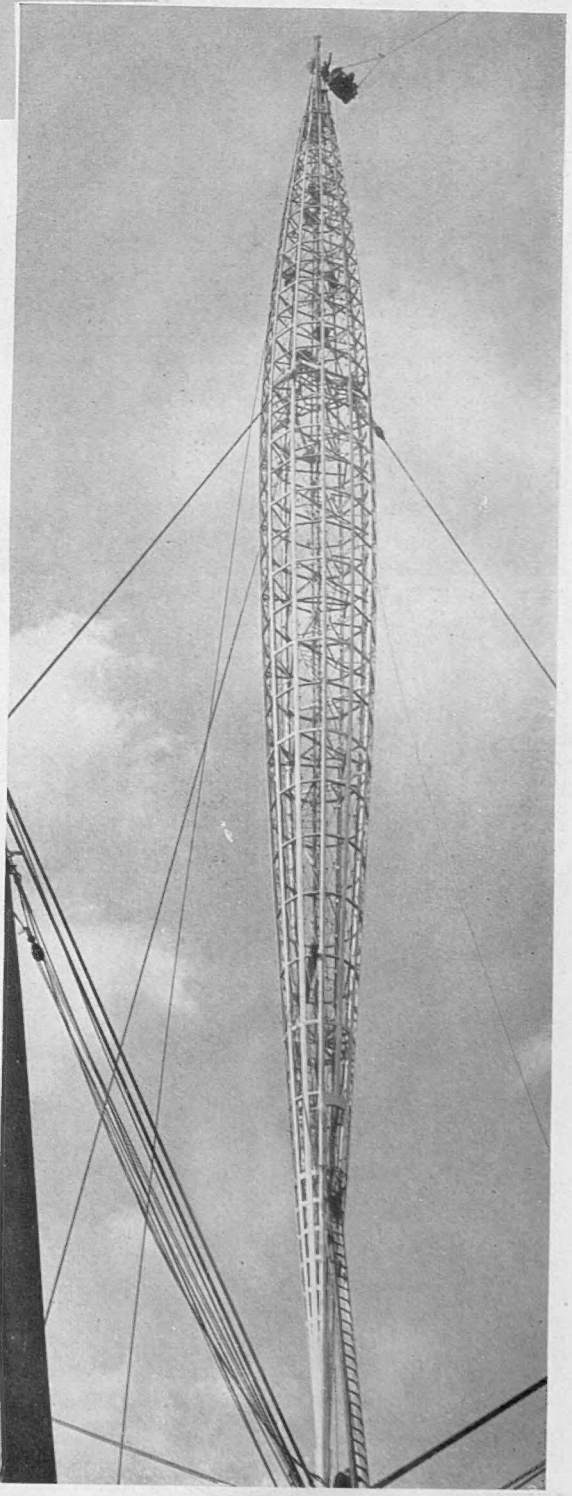
BROADCASTING from the SKYLON

A B.B.C. Commentator Ascends the Vertical Feature of the South Bank Exhibition

"An enormous pointer to the Great Exhibition, 290 ft. high, shining in the sun by day and illuminated from inside by night, creating the illusion of a heavier-than-air structure defying the laws of gravity, with its base suspended in a cradle of steel cables 40 ft. above the exhibition."

This was the official description of the Skylon, the signpost of the Festival Exhibition on London's South Bank, when the original design by Powell and Moya was awarded first prize of £300 in a competition organised by the Festival authorities. This vertical feature exercised the originality and inventiveness of 157 designers, architects and engineers who, in the conditions imposed, had to overcome severe technical difficulties. Last week-end the erection of the winning design was completed, and to mark the occasion B.B.C. commentator Wynford Vaughan Thomas went to the summit to record his impressions of London in general and of the Festival Exhibition in particular. No one envied him his task, but many thousands in a measure shared his experience, as he spoke through the microphone during the ascent and descent and discussed with the engineers aspects of this dramatic feature of the Great Exhibition of 1951.

ON THE WAY TO THE SUMMIT OF THE SKYLON, THE VERTICAL FEATURE OF LONDON'S SOUTH BANK EXHIBITION: Riding in the cradle were four engineers and Mr. Wynford Vaughan Thomas, the B.B.C. commentator, who during the lunch hour on Friday of last week went to the summit of the Skylon, 290 ft. above the great exhibition, and gave a broadcast of his impressions of London and of the progress of work on the Festival site stretching away below him



THE ASCENT OF THE SKYLON: *Left*—Mr. Wynford Vaughan Thomas (holding microphone) seen at the start of his journey to the summit of the vertical signpost of the South Bank Exhibition. *Right*—The cradle seen after the completion of the ascent. The hair-raising experience, which the B.B.C. commentator shared with wireless listeners, took place in a moderate wind. If there had been a high wind, Mr. Vaughan Thomas planned to walk up the steps within the Skylon.

SKI-JUMPING ON THE HEIGHTS OF HAMPSTEAD

Londoners See Some of the Accomplished Scandinavian Exponents of the Art, also the Oxford and Cambridge Teams

A THIRTEEN-YEAR-OLD OSLO SCHOOLBOY SHOWS HIS PROWESS : Henrik Lindeman completing a jump during a display under floodlights on the Hampstead Heath ski jump which afforded some spectacular entertainment last week-end.

A COMPETITOR LANDS UP IN THE STRAW : Kolbjorn Skjaeveland falling heavily after leaping from the artificial jump at Hampstead. This year the jump was 15 ft. higher than when the jumping competition was first organised in 1950.

ANOTHER HAMPSTEAD CASUALTY : A twenty-year-old Norwegian student, Per Thynes, collapsing into the straw at Hampstead. In 1950 he was Norway's Junior Champion Ski Jumper.

A HEAD-ON VIEW OF HAMPSTEAD'S ARTIFICIAL SKI JUMP, WHERE 60 TONS OF SNOW, BROUGHT TO BRITAIN IN FIFTY-FIVE CRATES, WAS DEPOSITED FOR LAST WEEK-END'S SKI-JUMPING COMPETITIONS, WHICH BROUGHT A FINE ENTRY OF NORWEGIAN EXPONENTS OF THE SPORT : The competition was organised in association with the London County Council, by the Central Council of Physical Recreation, with the Ski Club of Great Britain and the Norwegian Ski Association co-operating. Thirty-two Norwegian experts were among the entries, also representatives of Oxford and Cambridge, who competed for a University Challenge Cup. So successful was the first competition held in 1950 that it was possible to hold it on a bigger scale this year. The jump itself was made 15 ft. higher, and the take-off platform was 3 ft. higher. The first performance was given under floodlights and the second performance followed last Saturday at 3 p.m. On both occasions enormous crowds turned up to watch the sport. Arne Hoel, a young Norwegian business man, who has twice won the celebrated Holmenkollen contest, repeated his London Challenge Cup success of 1950, and with one very excellent jump of 35½ metres set up a new Hampstead Heath record.

SOARING ABOVE HAMPSTEAD'S "VALE OF HEALTH," TWO BRILLIANT NORWEGIAN EXPONENTS OF SKI-JUMPING DELIGHT THE SATURDAY AFTERNOON CROWD GATHERED ROUND THE SKI JUMP : *Left*—Aage Tansem, the Norwegian police champion, seen as he made a spectacular leap. *Right*—Arne Hoel, again the winner of the London Challenge Cup, making one of his two leaps, one of 35 metres and the other of 35½ metres, the latter being a record for the Hampstead meeting. Hoel is Norway's best jumper, and at Holmenkollen, where he has twice won the big competition, he has jumped 98 metres. None of the competitors were professional ski jumpers.

BEFORE THE CROSSING OF THE 38TH PARALLEL—A SURPRISE ATTACK BY AMERICAN PARATROOPS NORTH OF SEOUL, THE SOUTH KOREAN CAPITAL : The paratroops were descending from Flying Boxcars twenty-one miles north-west of Seoul, in an attempt to cut off the retreating North Korean First Corps. At the same time a strong force of United Nations tanks was pushing ahead to join up with the paratroops who had jumped behind the Communist lines. As the troops neared the Parallel, so once again the politicians in Europe and America raised their voices in the great debate on the subject of the dividing-line between South and North Korea. In Washington the American Secretary of Defence, General Marshall, said : " The controlling factor in regard to the 38th Parallel is the necessity to safeguard the security of the command. Any general advance is a matter for political decision." At the time of this statement comment was also being made on General MacArthur's offer to confer with the enemy Commanders in the war zone.

Progress of the War in Korea

The ADVANCE to the 38TH PARALLEL and the RECAPTURE of SEOUL

BUSINESS AS USUAL—AN OPEN-AIR MARKET GETS UNDER WAY IN THE BATTERED SOUTH KOREAN CAPITAL : This picture was taken soon after the return of the Allied forces, as the few remaining residents of the city resumed their normal activities.

STANDING TRIUMPHANT AMID THE DEBRIS OF SEOUL—THE CITY'S CATHEDRAL FRAMED IN THE RUIN OF SURROUNDING BUILDINGS : Before the recapture of the city from the Communist forces, Seoul had been subjected to a merciless attack by the United Nations Air Forces. This picture bears witness to the remarkable escape of the cathedral from the wholesale destruction as evidenced by the damaged buildings in the foreground.

THE GREEK ROYAL FAMILY DRIVE TO ATHENS CATHEDRAL FOR THE GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY SERVICE: King Paul and Queen Frederika seen as they arrived for the Thanksgiving Mass accompanied by little Prince Constantine and his sisters Princesses Irene and Sophia. The celebrations in Athens took place under a cloudless sky, and tens of thousands of people thronged the streets of the capital to see the big military parade. To mark the occasion the King made a significant statement on Greece's potential part in Western defence.

GREECE CELEBRATES INDEPENDENCE DAY

In the first interview which he has g to a Greek newspaper since his ac to the throne four years ago, an int which coincided with a big parade of m might in Athens on Greek Independenc King Paul urged that Greece be ad " to one of the free peoples' defence sys He said that the Greek Army's valuab experience had made it one of the experienced armies in the world, and th military defeat which it had inflicted Greek rebels had been decisive. Gre said, was now in a position to face suppress any new venture to revi rebellion.

Those who saw the Independenc parade in Athens certainly felt that the words were borne out, the Greek forces a most impressive display as they m through some of the principal streets capital. Earlier in the day there were siastic cheers for the Royal Family a drove to Thanksgiving Mass at the Cath

FROM PEACEFU GREECE TO WAR-SCARRED KOREA

NEWS FROM THE DEMOCRACIES AS WINTER TURNS TO SPRING

KING PAUL AND QUEEN FREDERIKA LEAVING ATHENS CA DRAL AFTER INDEPENDENCE DAY MASS: Last Sunday King celebrated the fourth anniversary of his acces following the death of his brother, King Geo

THE HEAD OF THE FRENCH STATE RECEIVES A TYPICAL NEW YORK WELCOME ON ARRIVAL IN THE LINER "ILE DE FRANCE" *Left*—The President engages in a three-way handshake with Mr. Grover Whalen (representing Mayor Impellit and M. Robert Schuman, the French Foreign Minister. *Right*—M. and Madame Auriol before disembarking in Manhat

PRESIDENT AURIOL IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

A Popular Welcome in New York Before Meeting President Truman in Washington

M. Auriol, the first French President to visit the United States, received a typical New York welcome from land, sea and air when the *Ile de France* moved up harbour with the official welcoming party on board. A twenty-one-gun salute was fired by the Army post at Governor's Island, fireboats shot streams of water high into the air, and aircraft circled overhead, dipping in salute. In a statement in French to the Press, M. Auriol said: "I am here not only to confirm but to rejuvenate the friendship of America and Fra which is as old as our common history and has become strong sacred through the sacrifices of both our peoples for the same caus Soon after going ashore President Auriol and his party left by t for Washington where, later in the afternoon, they were greeted the Union Station by President Truman, Mrs. Truman, lea members of the United States Cabinet, and Service chiefs.

TWENTY-ONE REPUBLICS MEET IN WASHINGTON

The U.S. Secretary of State, Mr. Dean Acheson, so long assailed as the friend of "fellow-travellers" and so long maligned by his Republican foes, spoke out loud and bold in Washington's Constitution Hall last week when he addressed the representatives of twenty-one American Republics, calling upon them to unite in the battle against Communism. Mr Acheson told the "Good Neighbour" Foreign Ministers that although their countries did not necessarily have a single way of life, they were bound to other nations the world over by one vital tie—their concern for freedom. In general Dean Acheson's speech underlined the basic purpose of the Conference, which was called at the behest of the United States. He made plain to his Latin colleagues that they were very much part of the global situation, and he reminded them frankly of the opportunities and responsibilities that that involved. The partnership into which Mr. Acheson invited the people from Tierra del Fuego to the Rio Grande was not alliance, he said. It was a "spiritual confederation," based on freedom, which he reminded them was the essential preliminary to peace. Mr. Acheson acknowledged that the goals of a free society in the hemisphere had not been completely attained

DEAN ACHESON EXHORTS THE PEOPLE OF THE AMERICAS TO JOIN IN "A PARTNERSHIP OF THE FREE WORLD": The Secretary of State addressing the representatives of twenty-one Republics of North and South America at last week's gathering in Washington, when he called upon them to join in fighting "the mortal threat of Soviet Communism." Later, delegates heard President Auriol.

MR. TRUMAN AT THE INAUGURAL SESSION OF THE NORTH, CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICAN FOREIGN MINISTERS: The U.S. President is seen seated beside the Argentine Foreign Minister, Senor Hipolito Jesus Paz. They were applauding the Brazilian Foreign Minister.

MacARTHUR AGAIN IN KOREA

***On right*—THE SUPREME COMMANDER ALLIED POWERS PAYS HIS THIRTEENTH VISIT TO THE KOREAN FRONT: General of the Army Douglas MacArthur being briefed by a U.S. Marine colonel when paying a call on a marine unit in the thick of the fighting on the Central Front.** Last week MacArthur was once again in the forefront of the news when he made a proposal for a conference in the field with his opposite number, the objective being to end the Korean war without further bloodshed. Washington was deeply critical of this proposed move out of the realm of military matters into that of diplomacy. Hanson W. Baldwin, writing in the *New York Times*, has been commenting in a series of articles on the MacArthur controversy. "The friction between Washington and Tokyo and the resentment in high quarters (including top levels in the Pentagon) over General MacArthur's acts," he writes, "had gone so far some weeks ago that reports of the appointment of a successor to him were being freely circulated in Washington. The General, however, as White House and other observers noted, has become far more than a general; he is a political symbol in domestic politics. Most observers rather generally agree that from the point of view of practical politics, and also from the point of view of the psychological effect upon the Korean campaign, General MacArthur could not be relieved until he could gracefully retire—as he has suggested he wants to do—after the signing of a peace treaty with Japan, and or an end to, or stabilisation of, the Korean fighting."

SURVIVAL at SEA

THE LATEST REVOLUTIONARY DEVELOPMENTS IN LIFE-SAVING

From time to time The Sphere *has recorded post-war developments made in life-saving methods at sea. In the following article Lieut.-Commander G. W. R. Nicholl, R.N., who as the officer-in-charge of the Safety Equipment and Survival Training School is the technical adviser to the Naval Life Saving Committee, describes the latest developments in the new life-saving equipment now being made in the Royal Navy. However, it should be pointed out that the opinions expressed are the writer's and not necessarily those of the Admiralty.*

Survival at sea demands that life-saving equipment should be readily available for instant use and, when in use, afford support clear of the water, give protection from wind, weather and sun; and, for the individual, that a lifejacket should float him correctly whether conscious or unconscious. The standard equipment in ships consists of boats which are cumbersome to launch and occupy much space, rafts designed to supply buoyancy only, and life-jackets that are also cumbersome because they have at present to be made of inherently buoyant material.

THE NEW LIFERAFT, OR DOUBLE TENT, BEFORE INFLATION: One end of the static line seen on right is attached to the operating head on the CO_2 cylinder inside the valise, while the other end would in practice be secured to a point in the ship. The inflation is started by a pull on the static line. This line actuates the operating head, which in turn allows the gas from the CO_2 cylinder to pass into the buoyancy tubes.

The progress now being made in the Royal Navy has produced results sufficiently sound to merit consideration in a larger sphere—the Merchant Navy. The latter service, however, is governed by detailed regulations issued by the Board of Trade in a book of some 200 pages, "Instructions as to the Survey of Life-Saving Appliances." The importance of the subject admittedly demands careful and, in some cases, even rigid legislation. But the rules should not be so inflexible as to hinder progress. In the views of the writer, these rules could be modified with advantage to embody the ideas developed in the Royal Navy. With that object this article is concerned.

Immediately after the war the Admiralty, concerned at the loss of life that had occurred as a result of drowning and exposure, set up a committee to examine the whole question. A thorough and comprehensive investigation was made, the equipment of other countries as well as that of our own being studied; and it was eventually concluded that, to meet the sudden hazards which warships are particularly subject to, the soundest lines along which to proceed would be to adapt for use by surface craft the type of inflatable rubber dinghy and lifejacket used in aviation. A new committee was thereupon convened to give practical form to these recommendations. Developments were then made, and in the last two years more progress has been reported than in the previous thirty.

The new 20-man, double-tented, double-floored liferafts, which are made of high-grade rubberised cotton, occupy little space when deflated and are light and easy to handle. And, most important, the occupants are protected all round by a layer of still air, which is one of the best forms of insulation against both heat and cold. In one test alone the temperature inside the raft rose within an hour from 35 deg. Fah. to 84 deg. Fah. In the tropics the double tent provides the vital shade. Fresh water is an all-important problem. Allowing for a five-day supply for the twenty occupants, water in bulk would account for approximately 50 per cent. of the total weight of all the ancillary equipment. There are now hopes that this problem will also be solved, for trials of an ingenious though simple type of solar still, developed by the Americans, show great promise.

Although the rafts are subject to the same hazards as current types of gear when damage to the ship affects their accessibility for manual launching, they can be automatically released. When the ship sinks, water pressure operates the device, the raft floats to the surface due to its inherent buoyancy, and the pull on the static line releases the gas which inflates the raft, which then breaks free from the line.

In attempting to achieve the ideal type of lifejacket the aim has been to design one which will float an unconscious person the right way up and give his nose and mouth maximum clearance above water.

The greatest clearance can be obtained by vertical flotation of the body, but this has two disadvantages.

THE NEW 20-MAN, DOUBLE-TENTED LIFERAFT AS IT WOULD APPEAR AT SEA: The tent has been erected by means of the two pneumatic arches, the curves of which can be seen under the fabric. The buoyancy chambers are baffled to minimise the effects of possible damage, and a lateral tube amidships enables the raft to keep its occupants afloat at one end should the other become deflated. Because of the low-pressure system, deflation would be slow if all but severe damage occurred. The length of the craft when inflated is 16 ft., the beam 10 ft., and the height 4½ ft. Before inflation the dimensions are 5 by 2 by 1½ ft. *On right*—The righting of a capsized raft can be achieved by one man in the manner shown. Three of the water-pockets can be seen on the underside. These provide additional stability and also reduce the rate of drift in a wind. The man is standing on the gaiter stowage of the CO_2 cylinder which, when fully charged, holds approximately 14 lb. weight of the gas in its liquid state.

THE FLOTATION ATTITUDE IN THE PROPOSED LIFEJACKET: The head is held well clear in the most satisfactory position and is prevented from falling sideways. The body is supported at the waist at the point where the lower part of the buoyancy chamber is attached to the belt. In a readily accessible position in front of the face is the rescue loop, one strap of which can be seen passing under the wearer's left arm towards the middle of the back, where both ends are attached either side of the buckle fittings.

Firstly, such a position induces vertical oscillation in disturbed water, causing the body to submerge periodically. Secondly (and this is mainly of concern during war), the body is then exposed to maximum effects from underwater explosions. The horizontal position solves these problems, but it in turn suffers an equally important objection in that the tongue of the unconscious person may then fall back into his throat and choke him. So a happy medium has to be struck, that is, a flotation angle of about 40 deg.

In the course of trying to determine the best position, an R.A.F. doctor allowed himself to be anæsthetised while in the experimental tank at the Institute of Aviation Medicine, Farnborough. This was necessary because no conscious person can truly simulate unconsciousness in water, certainly not for any length of time. As a result of these experiments and others, a more efficient design was slowly evolved, the principle being the provision of a large "bubble" on the chest to give a strong righting moment, and then adequate support behind the head and at the sides of the face when the wearer is on his back.

In the Merchant Navy the "rigid sides" type of lifeboat has been accepted for so long without question that to suggest an apparently flimsy alternative as being more suitable may almost amount to heresy. But the recent investigations have implicitly shown that open boats do not meet the main essentials for the protection of their occupants. In these days of radio, the day-by-day whereabouts of a ship is known, and if it founders help can be directed at once to a reasonably accurate position. But if, in the meantime, its lifeboats have dispersed to the four points of the compass the rescuers are severely handicapped. Safety lies in staying where you are. The rafts would be manned by ship-side ladders and from the sea by those who jump in—with confidence in their inflatable lifejackets and no fear of landing on solid boats below!

PROVIDING FRESH WATER FOR THE OCCUPANTS OF LIFEBOATS: The solar still is prepared for operation by inflating the transparent plastic balloon through the inflation tube seen at left. A black, absorbent material is suspended inside clear of contact with the sides. The funnel-shaped reservoir at the top is filled with sea-water; topping-up, depending on the heat of the sun, being necessary at intervals of two to four hours. The sea-water from the reservoir at the top seeps down into the internally suspended material; heat inside the balloon causes evaporation, and condensation takes place on the inside of the plastic envelope. The moisture eventually runs down the sides into a fresh-water reservoir at the bottom, from where it can be drained off through the inflation tube. The makers claim that a single electric lamp is sufficient to operate the still which, when working, is towed astern of the boat at the end of its safety line

The saving in top-weight and space would also be a boon to the naval architect; and the smaller cost is yet another advantage. The entire elimination of boats is not, of course, suggested; pulling or power boats would still be needed for harbour and special sea duties.

A NEW PARTY IN GERMANY

THE RECONSTRUCTION OF HAMBURG; CANAL TRAFFIC IN BERLIN

THE FOUNDING CONGRESS OF A NEW PARTY IN GERMANY: Two hundred delegates from all over Western Germany took part in the creation of the Independent Workers' Party, a Titoist-type break-away party of which three of the leaders—Schappe, Fischer and Leonhard—are ex-members of the German Communist Party. *On the left*, youths take the stage while their leaders sit below. *On right*—Singing the party's anthem are Werner Sicher, Josef Schappe, Georg Fischer and Wolfgang Leonhard.

THE PORT OF HAMBURG REGAINS SOME OF ITS FORMER IMPORTANCE: A general view of the great port as it is to-day. Hamburg was one of the biggest targets of Allied bombers during the war, but six years of reconstruction work have brought much of the port back into active use. The shipbuilding firm of Blohm and Voss, which was almost completely wiped out, has been rebuilt and two more ships were launched from the yards last month and are being fitted out.

TUGS LIE AT THEIR BERTH IN THE PORT OF HAMBURG: At the Three-Power Conference last September it was decided that the existing restrictions on shipbuilding for export in Germany should be removed. The result has been greatly increased activity in Hamburg, where much reconstruction work on port installations had already been carried out.

THE BERLIN CANAL TRAFFIC PROBLEM: British Military Police examine barges at the Charlottenberg lock, in the British Sector, to check smuggling into West Berlin. 21 tugs and 128 barges were held up at one time, but the difficulties were temporarily overcome when the Russians met outstanding applications for documents to enable traffic to proceed through their zone. The delays, which began early last month, were originally effected by German police at locks in the British Sector to stop smuggling, and were not overcome until an exchange of letters had taken place between the British Commandant, Major-General Bourne, and the Russian representative in Berlin, Mr. Dengin. The Russians took full advantage of the hold-up to make propaganda of what they termed a new blockade. Talks have now begun to try to reach a permanent agreement.

NEWS FROM EUROPE, AS
AND THE AMERICAS

A PICTORIAL SURVEY OF THE FOREIGN NEW

THE HOLY LAND IS SUFFERING FROM THE WORST DROUGHT WHICH IT HAS EXPERIENCED IN EIGHTY YEARS, AND IN THE BETHLEHEM AREA THE PEOPLE ARE THREATENED SERIOUS HARDSHIP : *Left*—One of the three Pools of Solomon at Bethlehem which now contains only 15 per cent. of its normal supply. At this time of the year, end of the rainy season in Israel, the Pools of Solomon are usually filled to the brim. They are believed to have been built 1,000 years before the time of *Right*—Women arriving to draw water from a pipe extending from one of the Pools of Solomon. At the moment they may fetch four gallons daily, but officials been saying that this will have to be reduced to one gallon unless more rain falls. Some rain fell at Easter, but by no means sufficient to make any real diffe

FOLLOWERS OF CHIANG KAI-SHEK SURRENDER THEIR ARMS IN INDO-CHINA : Nationalist partisans lined up before their rifles and ammunition at a brief ceremony at Phong Tho as their leader, with due ceremony, handed his revolver to the local provincial chief, Deo Van Han. Of recent months large numbers of Nationalists have been forced to seek asylum in Indo-China, being unable to resist the pressure of Communist mopping-up operations in Southern China.

MRS. WINSTON CHURCHILL ON HOLIDAY IN SPAIN : The wife of B wartime Prime Minister seen during an Easter procession in S She watched the parade in company with the British Con Seville and his wife. Mrs. Churchill has been visiting both and Portugal. On her outward journey she was accompani Mr. F. W. D. Deakin, who has been helping Mr. Churchill wi war memoirs. They had to make a forced landing in M

THE DEAD BISHOP OF SALONICA, GENNADIOS, SEATED ON HIS EPISCOPAL THRONE AND WEARING HIS VESTMENTS, IS BORNE THROUGH THE STREETS OF SALONICA TO HIS LAST RESTING-PLACE : As is the custom in the Greek Orthodox Church with Church dignitaries of the highest rank, he was buried sitting up. The funeral took place just before the observance of Easter in the Western Church. In the Greek Orthodox Church Easter occurs at a later date—this year it falls on April 29.

CROWDS THRONG THE BAVARIAN VILLAGE OF KONNERSREUTH AT EASTERTIDE AND WAIT OUTSIDE HOUSE OF THERESA NEUMANN, THE WOMAN WHO HAS ASTONISHED THE MEDICAL WOR REVEALING THE SIGNS OF THE STIGMATA (THE SACRED SCARS AND WOUNDS AND BLEEDI SUFFERED BY JESUS CHRIST) : The stigmatic signs have appeared at regular intervals since Holy Wee and they have always been particularly pronounced on Good Friday, but this year apparently there h been the same revelations and the blood has not poured from her hands, feet and side. The Theresa Neumann has been baffling the world for a quarter of a century, and it is somewhat par that of Catherine Emmerich, who died 127 years ago in the Westphalian village of Dulmen, by figure of fame and of controversy. Catherine always refused a neutral examination outside her own and it was because of a similar refusal by Theresa and her father that the Roman Catholic Church judgment in the '30's after a conference of bishops had convened at Freuysing, giving the tailor of Konne and his daughter the option of a clinical examination. Since then, however, pilgrims have flocked thousands to the village. Among the hosts who have seen the bleeding, all of them leaving the silent, many of them aghast, was Cardinal Faulhaber, Archbishop of Munich, who sat at the the bed while the full bleeding manifested itself. It is said that when S.S. troops were sent by to the Neumann home they were greeted at the door by Theresa with a crown of thorns about he and blood dripping from her hands and feet and side. They were so terrified that they turned a

OGLIATTI CALLS UPON ITALY TO QUIT THE ATLANTIC PACT : The Italian Communist leader addressing the seventh annual Provincial Congress of the Milan Federation of the Communist Party, when he made his first public appearance since his recent return from Russia, where he went to recuperate after a serious accident. Togliatti promised the Government, or any Italian Government that might be formed, that the Communists would cease to oppose any administration "willing to alter radically our foreign policy by disentangling Italy from those commitments which are leading her to war and ruin." Togliatti poured scorn on the efforts of Cucchi and Magnani to secure disruption in the Communist ranks.

THE FACE OF JOSEPH STALIN IS WELL AND TRULY AIRED IN THE STREETS OF EAST BERLIN : Youthful supporters of the Communist cause displaying massed pictures of the Russian leader during a recent parade through the city. This spring and summer East Berlin is preparing for the World Youth Festival, when Young Communists are expected to forgather from many parts of the world for a veritable feast of propaganda.

CENTRAL FIGURE IN WHAT IS BEING DESCRIBED AS ONE OF THE GREATEST FRAUDS IN CUBAN HISTORY : Ramon Grau San Martin, twice President of the Cuban Republic, has, with ten others, been indicted in the Havana Courts for criminal responsibility in the theft or misappropriation of 40,000,000 dollars. The indictment was handed down by Judge Federico Justiniani, who has been investigating for many months charges that Dr. Grau San Martin's regime mishandled more than 174,000,000 dollars in Government funds. Dr. Grau San Martin had no immediate comment on the indictment, but in the past he and his followers have denied the accusations, saying they stemmed from manœuvres by political enemies.

RETREAT FROM STALINISM TO TITOISM—BULGARIAN REFUGEES SEEK SANCTUARY IN YUGOSLAVIA : Bulgarian peasants, factory workers and professional men are included in this group taken at the refugees' camp at Nis, Yugoslavia, where refugees have been pouring in of recent weeks, seventy-two of them during a recent period of a fortnight. Many of the refugees have astonishing stories to tell of adventures en route, of pushing through deep undergrowth and wading through swamps, and of risking the bullets of Bulgarian sentries on the tightly-closed international frontier. All of them denounce the members of Bulgaria's present Communist regime as the serfs and lackeys of the Kremlin.

EAT MEN MEET THE PRESS : Left to right—Mr. R. S. Symons, Mr. John Edwards, Economic Secretary to the Treasury and head of the British Economic Mission in the Argentine, and Sir Albert Feaveryear attending a Press Conference at the British Embassy in Buenos Aires, where they discussed the latest developments in the meat negotiations with the Argentine Government. Mr. Edwards was to have left Buenos Aires for London on Wednesday of last week, but he postponed his departure until the week-end. He said that he hoped "that by then we shall have reached finality." Asked if agreement was in sight, Mr. Edwards declared : "At least we shall have exhausted every possibility by the time we finish these talks."

AN ITALIAN CLAIMS TWO CAR RECORDS : Piero Taruffi, the Italian racing driver, in his twin-torpedo-shaped car, during one of his world speed-record attempts on the Appian Way, south of Rome. He claims to have broken two British-held world speed records for the flying kilometre and flying mile titles for 1,500-2,000-cc.-class cars, set up by Lieut.-Colonel A. T. G. Gardner in 1948. His average speed for the flying kilometre was 185·483 m.p.h. and the flying mile 180·54 m.p.h.

BENEATH THE WHITE CRESTS OF THE GURLA MANDHATA, A MONARCH AMONG THE PEAKS OF THE HUNDES PROVINCE OF FAR WESTERN TIBET: A Tibetan servant is looking out across the cornfields of the Karnali Valley, which represents one of the easiest points of entry from Western Tibet into Nepal. Mount Gurla Mandhata, given on some maps as Memo Nani, towers to a height of 25,355 ft. and is the highest peak within the Soviet-controlled area of Tibet. This picture was taken by the American traveller Frank Thomas at a height of 13,000 ft., where, owing to the great heat in summer, barley grows almost waist high and is of fair quality. Mr. Thomas has only lately returned from Western Tibet, beyond the barrier of the Himalayas, bringing with him a remarkable set of photographs.

BEYOND THE BARRIER OF THE HIMALAYAS

MORE PICTURES FRO THE HUNDES

An American Explorer Visits the Half-Charted Terrain in Western Tibet. The Gurla Mandhata and the Chiu Gompa

Tibet is divided into provinces equal in size European States, and, needless to say, t differ vastly in their natural characteristics. A li known province that lies beyond the Himala wall is that of the Hundes, which has lately b visited by the American explorer Frank Thoc who has brought back with him a series of fascinat pictures of Lake Manasarowar, a sheet of wa sacred alike to Tibetans and Hindus, and of great peaks of this area, some of them unnam unclimbed and uncharted. A first selection of th pictures was published in last week's issue of T SPHERE, and on these pages is a further selecti showing in particular the magnificence of the G Mandhata, which rises to a height of over 25,000 between the northern borders of Nepal and L Manasarowar. Of considerable topographical inte also is the big monastery in the north-west corner of the Manasarowar, near which the Ri Sutlej starts upon its long and torrential cou This spot is the most holy in Western Tibet, a there the bodies of wealthy men from Taklakot a other towns are taken for disposal by the vultur It is a place of particular reverence in the eyes the Indian people, for here within a distance 100 miles of each other rise two more of sanctified great rivers of the sub-continent. On the Brahmaputra, which flows due east for hundr of miles behind the Himalayan barrier, and the o is the Indus, which goes north-westwards be turning due south to water the fertile lands of Punjab, where it meets the waters of the Sut near which it too has its source.

Mr. Thomas's picture of the valley of the Su is of special interest, as he reports that in this Ru sphere of influence Russian engineers have recen been engaged on a preliminary survey with a v to starting dam-building operations. Why exac they should wish to dam one of the tributaries of t Sutlej is not easily explained, but it is not out of t question that they should be planning hydro-elect works in Tibet.

CHIU GOMPA, THE BIRD MONASTERY CROWNING THE HEIGHTS ABOVE THE NORTH-WESTERN CORNER OF THE MANASAROWAR LAKE AT THE POINT WHERE ITS WATERS SEEP INTO THE SACRED RAKAS LAKE: The monastery, an offshoot of Dira Phuk Gompa to the north of Mount Kailas, and ultimately controlled from the Dading Boche Gompa, thirty miles north of Lhasa, is so named because there the bodies of devout Tibetans are brought for disposal by the vultures. A great part of the monastery is excavated from the solid rock, and it is indeed a veritable labyrinth of chambers. Beneath the citadel of Chiu Gompa rises the Sutlej River, which seeps its way out of the lakes to become a rushing torrent as it heads down through the Himalayan passes to form one of the great rivers which flow south-westwards through the Punjab.

ALONG THE PATH OF AN EASTERN CONQUEROR: *Above* and *on right*—These two towers of masonry in the heart of plateau country beneath the peaks of the Hundes in Western Tibet are the ruins of a fort destroyed by the Sikh General Zoravar Singh, who conquered Little Tibet, or Ladekh, from Kashmir, and who then advanced into Western Tibet, destroying all the forts that lay along his path. While returning with a small force from Taklakot to see his wife, whom he had left at Gartok, the General was surprised by a large Chinese force which had come to the help of the Tibetans, and he was slain near this spot. It is recorded that his captured troops were treated extremely well when they were taken to Lhasa to be placed in captivity. The invasion by Zoravar Singh was in 1841.

A ROCK-GIRT VALLEY AT THE FOOT OF MOUNT KAILAS—THE VALLEY IS SAID TO HAVE BEEN VISITED BY RUSSIAN ENGINEERS WITH A VIEW TO CONSIDERING IT AS A POSSIBLE SITE FOR A DAM: Through this valley runs one of the tributaries of the Sutlej, passing through great rocky canyons where damming operations would be comparatively easy. Mount Kailas is the easternmost of a series of peaks which run parallel with the Himalayas, and at a distance of about 100 miles to the north of them.

THE FORMER MAYOR OF NEW YORK, MR. WILLIAM O'DWYER, TAKES THE OATH IN THE PRESENCE OF SENATOR KEFAUVER (LEFT) BEFORE GIVING EVIDENCE VOLUNTARILY BEFORE THE SENATE CRIME INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE IN NEW YORK: Mr. O'Dwyer, who is now Ambassador in Mexico, came under heavy fire from the Committee as he revealed in testimony that he had made a series of appointments during his term of office of men who were linked in one way or another with the underworld. One of them was Lawrence Austin, friend of Frank Costello, who became City Marshal, and another Philip Zichello, brother-in-law of gang-leader Moretti, who became Deputy Commissioner of Hospitals.

LOUIS WEBER, FIFTY-ONE-YEAR-OLD PUERTO RICAN, AND SAID TO BE A LEADER IN THE NEW YORK NUMBERS RACKET, SEEN STANDING BEHIND A STENOGRAPHER (LEFT) AS HE WAS CONFRONTED AT THE SENATE CRIME INVESTIGATION IN NEW YORK WITH MR. JAMES J. MORAN, NEW YORK COMMISSIONER OF WATER SUPPLY: Weber denied that he knew Moran (a close friend of former Mayor O'Dwyer), and shortly after leaving the court he was arrested and charged with perjury. Moran, who held a succession of posts under Mayor O'Dwyer, culminating in his 15,000-dollar a year appointment as Commissioner of Water Supply, admitted he knew Weber and that he had visited the home of Frank Costello on more than one occasion, but denied that he had collected money for any of Mr. O'Dwyer's campaign funds. As a result of Moran's evidence he was ordered by Mayor Impelliteri to resign his job, which he did two days later, in doing so exchanging tart letters with the Mayor on the causes of his resignation.

LARRY PARKS DECLARES THAT HE ONCE BELONGED TO THE COMMUNIST PARTY, BUT AVERS THAT THERE IS A GREAT DEAL OF DIFFERENCE BETWEEN BEING A COMMUNIST IN 1945 AND A COMMUNIST IN 1951: The celebrated motion-picture actor testifying before the Senate Committee on un-American Activities which has now renewed its hearings in Washington. Parks, who at first pleaded with the investigators not to force him to "crawl through the mud to be an informer" on other film figures, later went behind closed doors to give them the names of "four or five" Hollywood Communists. Committee members said afterwards that Mr. Parks was "very co-operative."

FACES IN COURT IN AMERICA

Crime and other Investigations in Washington and New York

JACOB ("GREASY THUMB") GUZICK, WHO APPEARED BEFORE THE SENATE CRIME INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE AFTER IT HAD MOVED FROM NEW YORK TO WASHINGTON: This reputed second-in-command of the present Capone gang in Chicago refused to answer questions, and was arrested for contempt of Congress. Guzick is a survivor of Al Capone's original "mob."

LABELLED AS THE LORD HIGH EXECUTIONER OF "MURDER INCORPORATED": Albert Anastasia, the waterfront lieutenant of Joe Adonis, seen as he arrived at the New York courthouse for the Senate Crime Investigation. Mayor O'Dwyer in giving evidence was asked to explain his failure to indict and prosecute Anastasia for the murder of Peter Panto, an insurgent longshoreman.

HARRY GOLD, CONFESSED ATOMIC SPY FOR THE SOVIET UNION AND NOW SERVING A LONG PRISON TERM FOR CONSPIRACY TO COMMIT ESPIONAGE, ARRIVING WITH A DEPUTY U.S. MARSHAL AT THE FEDERAL COURT, NEW YORK: Gold (left) took the stand as a Government witness in the latest American spy trial, in which the defendants are Julius Rosenberg, his wife Ethel, and Morton Sobell, an electronics expert. Gold's testimony was most outspoken, and this may possibly assist his parole in 1960.

ALGER HISS, DESCRIBED AS BITTER BUT CONFIDENT OF ULTIMATE VINDICATION, BEING DRIVEN WITH ANOTHER PRISONER TO THE FEDERAL HOUSE OF DETENTION, NEW YORK, AFTER SURRENDERING TO BAIL AT THE START OF HIS FIVE-YEAR SENTENCE FOR PERJURY: Looking like a well-groomed diplomat, the forty-six-year-old former State Department official was herded into a United States marshal's van and shackled to a picture-shy mail thief. Hiss, who was prominent in the Roosevelt and Truman Administrations, was taken to the Federal House of Detention, 427 West Street, with seven other prisoners sentenced for crimes ranging from mail theft to forgery. Within several days the Department of Justice will designate the penitentiary where Hiss will serve the sentence resulting from a tale of treason unfolded before the House Un-American Activities Committee almost three years ago by Whittaker Chambers.

HERE IS THE INDIA OF TRADITION: Seated on a silver throne the Maharao Raja Bahadur Singhji Bahadur, M.C., a hero of the Burma campaign, receives his followers and accepts gifts from them one by one. This Durbar was held to mark the ruler's thirty-first birthday, a five-day programme staged in the traditional manner.

WHERE THE INDIA OF THE PRINCES LINGERS YET

At Bundi the Maharao Raja Celebrates His 31st Birthday With a Tiger Shoot and a Five-day Programme of Festivities

There have been only four ruling chiefs of the Rajputana State of Bundi since the year 1821, for these chiefs of the Hara Chauhan clan of Rajputs are long-lived, members of a tough and wiry race which throughout the Middle Ages waged war in a series of constant feuds with neighbouring Mewar and Malwa. In Bundi, a city founded in 1342, it appears that tradition dies hard, for the young Maharao Raja rules there still in accordance with the princely past, although the Dominion of India has wrested all the real power. The present holder of the title, whose thirty-first birthday celebrations are depicted on this page, is Maharao Raja Bahadur Singhji Bahadur, M.C., who, like his father before him, has been an A.D.C. to the King, and like him, too, has won the Military Cross. The present ruler was born in March 1920, and attended as a youth the Mayo College at Ajmer, one of the best known of all the institutions for the Princes and sometimes called the Eton of India, partly by reason of the many notable cricketers which it has produced.

After leaving Mayo the Prince went in 1940 to the Police Training College at Moradabad, and a year later he took the Indian Civil Service Probationers Course at Dehra Dun. In 1942 he entered the Army, being posted to the Officers Training School at Bangalore. He was commissioned in Probyn's Horse (Indian Armoured Corps), and while serving in the Burma campaign was mentioned in despatches and awarded the Military Cross for conspicuous gallantry in the field. Only a month before that exploit at Meiktila, which won him the award, he had been wounded. It was in April 1945 also that the Prince succeeded to the Gadi and that he was appointed Hon. A.D.C. to the King. The new Maharao Raja attended the Victory Parade in London, and he was also over here for the marriage of Princess Elizabeth and Prince Philip.

To-day Bundi is part of the United State of Rajasthan, just a small part of the vast Indian Dominion, but somehow or other the tradition of Princely India seems to linger there as in few other places. In his palace, built before the days of Columbus, a jewel set beside a lake studded with islets crowned with temples, the thirty-one-year-old Maharao Raja still receives the homage of his people and the great family tradition is not forgotten; for are not the rulers of this Hara clan of the four Agnikula created by Vishnu at the fire-pit on Mount Abu, and are they not, too, descendants of a people who threw in their lot with the Muhammadan Emperors of the sixteenth century and lived powerfully and magnificently. India's princes may have lost all their power and much of their wealth, but in Rajputana, at any rate, ancient glories are not forgotten.

A ROYAL TIGER FALLS TO THE CHIEF'S GUN: The Maharao Raja of Bundi, a young and athletic figure, standing with his arm in that of Mr. Martin Flavin, American author and playwright, and with others of his guests after he had shot a tiger during a hunt to mark his birthday.

A RULER OF RAJPUTANA RECEIVES HIS GUESTS IN A PALACE BUILT BEFORE THE DAYS OF COLUMBUS: *Left*—The Maharao Raja introducing his eleven-year-old son to some of the distinguished guests who attended his thirty-first birthday Durbar. *Right*—The Maharao Raja upon his silver throne. He is wearing some of the priceless family jewels, rubies and diamonds which have been handed down from generation to generation among heads of the Hara Chauhan clan of Rajputs. The dynasty was founded in the fourteenth century.

THE SPHINX OBSERVATORY ON THE JUNGFRAU PERCH, WHERE, WEDGED ON A SHEER ROCK 11,723 FT. ABOVE SEA-LEVEL IN THE SWISS ALPS, COSMIC-RAY AND SOLAR SCIENTISTS, ARMED WITH ALL MANNER OF SCIENTIFIC INSTRUMENTS, ARE CARRYING OUT THEIR WORK IN THE COLD, THIN AIR HALF-WAY TO THE STRATOSPHERE: Sphinx Rock is connected by lift to the International Institute of Scientific Research, 400 ft. lower down the mountain. Two teams of scientists from Manchester and Bristol Universities have been working with a team of foreign scientists on the Jungfraujoch during the winter. The British teams have been under the leadership of Professors Newth and Powell.

AT WORK ON THE EXTERIOR OF THE SPHINX OBSERVA... A member of the permanent staff engaged ... hazardous maintenance operations thousands of ... above the Swiss valley, where the great peaks of ... Eiger, the Jungfrau and the Monch tower around ...

SCIENCE MOVES to t... MOUNTAIN-TOPS

Studying Cosmic Rays and Infra-red Rays on the Jungfrau Perch in Switzerland

Science is moving to the mountain-tops. Physics and ... physics are being studied on the heights, where the ... calmer and clearer. Men working on the new frontier of ... plosive force get up as high as they can to study the ... corona and cosmic rays, those mysterious particles which are ... ever bombarding the earth. Going up in aircraft does not ... the problem, for a laboratory aeroplane could not take the ... of equipment required for research, nor could it provide ... utter stillness which is so imperative.

During the past winter scientists have taken station in ... Pyrenees, the Swiss Alps and the Rocky Mountains, among ... Professor Blackett, the Nobel Prize-winner and the ... greatest expert on cosmic rays. This Manchester P... Professor has chosen for his icy perch the Pic du Midi, in ... Central Pyrenees.

The centre of most intense activity is the meteorol... station and observatory on the Jungfraujoch, in the Swiss ... where experts of many nations have again forgathered during ... winter, their headquarters being the International Institute ... Scientific Research, which lies some 400 ft. below the ... vatory and met. station in what is a veritable Alpine ... including hotels and a railway station connected by a lift ... elaborate tunnels.

In 1912 some thoughtful Swiss engineers provided an ... ground railway right up to the Berghaus and the Institute ... driving a great inclined tunnel for five miles up inside ... mountain, terminating at Jungfraujoch Station, over 11,000 ... above sea-level, the highest railway terminus in Europe. ... fact has enabled the international scientists to bring their ... equipment up to the observatory and laboratories.

About 1,200 research scientists from all over the world ... up to now worked in the research station on the Jungfrau ... As a result of their efforts, 300 scientific works have ... published. This indicates the importance of this research ... on the roof of Europe, the part it is playing in the service ... science and human progress.

THE STUDY OF INFRA-RED RAYS IS CARRIED OUT UPON "THE ROOF OF EUROPE": *Left*—Professor Migeotte, a Belgian astro-physicist, and his assistant are seen engaged in adjusting mirrors above the Sphinx Observatory on the Jungfraujoch. These mirrors catch the sunlight and direct it towards the infra-red spectrograph. *Right*—The mirrors being adjusted within the observatory. This delicate equipment, at the disposal of all research scientists using the observatory, weighs several ...

LOOKING DOWN ON THE LARGEST GLACIER IN EUROPE—A VIEW FROM THE SPHINX OBSERVATORY ON THE JUNGFRAU PERCH: Mist-enshrouded on the left are the heights of Kamm, and on right are the peaks of Dreieckhorn (12,504 ft.) and Kranzberg (12,022 ft.).

On right—
A VERITABLE ALPINE ANTHILL: Cut in the rock below the Sphinx Observatory are the Berghaus tourist hotel and the International Institute of Scientific Research, which is the base of operations of the teams of international scientists working on the Jungfrau perch. Within the mountainside is the Jungfraujoch railway station, one of the wonders of the modern world, and a labyrinth of tunnels connecting the hotel, the station, the observatory and the institute.

The independent public research station was founded on September 5, 1930. The foundation document was signed by the Swiss Natural Research Association, the Kaiser Wilhelm Association of Berlin, Paris University, the Royal Society, London, the Academy of Science in Vienna. Shortly after this the Scientific Research Association in Brussels joined the venture.

Since the opening of the research station in July 1931, research scientists from many countries have gained vital scientific knowledge from this observatory perch amongst rocks and snow. Research about the light of the sun and the stars, cosmic rays, the ozone layer of the earth, observations of meteorological appearances in the atmosphere, snow and glacier research, and research on the effects of height on humans and animals, all this is carried out at the station. The task is enormous and the work infinitely varied.

AT WORK WITHIN THE ASTRONOMICAL DOME ON THE JUNGFRAUJOCH: Professor Schuerer of Berne University seen engaged in daily checks on the telescope.

EXPLOSIVE NEWS FROM THE ARGENTINE

The Suppression of "La Prensa" and the Escape of Dr. Gainza Paz; President Peron Lays Claim to Remarkable Successes in Atomic Research

NOW DYING AFTER EIGHTY-TWO YEARS: The offices of the great independent newspaper *La Prensa*, from which no papers have been published since January 26 because of a boycott by the Government-sponsored Newsvendors' Union. A Congressional Committee set up to intervene and investigate *La Prensa's* affairs has now seized control of the paper, and portraits of President Peron and Evita Peron now adorn the offices, an addition to those of Churchill, Roosevelt and Smuts. The Congressional Committee is seeing that *La Prensa's* pay-roll is met from the newspaper's funds. There are 1,800 employees.

THE MEMBERS OF THE ARGENTINE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE SIGN AN ACT OF POSSESSION IN THE OFFICES OF "LA PRENSA" AFTER BEING GIVEN A MANDATE TO TAKE OVER THE NEWSPAPER, SO LONG A THORN IN THE SIDE OF THE PERON REGIME: Seated is the Public Notary, and behind him stand Senators and Representatives, second from right being Senator Giavarini, the Chairman.

Two seemingly unconnected events in Argentina have both pointed to the fact that the regime of Señor Peron is struggling with a difficult internal situation. The first event relates to the seizure of *La Prensa*, Argentina's bold and independent newspaper, which for over eighty years has been a fearless critic of Governments and a staunch supporter of the cultural aspects of Argentinian life. To-day *La Prensa* would seem to be doomed, for there has been no publication since January 26, and the owner-editor, sought by the police for alleged contempt of Congress, has fled to Uruguay. At the same time the Congressional Committee intervening in the affairs of *La Prensa* has ordered all private bankers to report every transaction handled for *La Prensa* as far back as 1945. That order is believed to be based on the hope of proving that *La Prensa* helped to finance the opposition. According to Herbert L. Matthew, *New York Times* correspondent in Buenos Aires, *La Prensa* has been a barrier to Peron's consolidation of power, and as such must go, otherwise an integral totalitarian State cannot be created.

The second event which shows the uneasy state of affairs in the Republic is the announcement by Peron that his scientists have found the secret of the hydrogen bomb and a new way of achieving atomic fission. World scientists have been sceptical of this news, and last week's cautious climb-down by Dr. Richter, Peron's chief scientist, came as no surprise. Richter let it be known that he still has to advance his new secret discovery beyond the laboratory stage. His production of "thermonuclear reactions as in the sun" is therefore very much in the air as yet, and some might aver that the announcement made at a Press Conference for Argentine journalists only was essentially for Argentine consumption; in fact, just another part of the consolidation process.

DR. GAINZA PAZ, EDITOR OF THE SUPPRESSED ARGENTINIAN DAILY NEWSPAPER, "LA PRENSA": Last week, after a warrant had been issued for his arrest for alleged contempt of Congress, Dr. Paz escaped from Buenos Aires and was next heard of at La Barra de San Juan Colonia, in Uruguay, where he obtained asylum on an estancia 100 miles from Montevideo and only 32 miles in a direct line from Buenos Aires. Dr. Gainza Paz has stated that he intends to stay in Uruguay for some time, but that he is not pessimistic about his country's future. "Some changes must occur," he says. There is no intention at the moment of publishing *La Prensa* in exile, although Dr. Paz has had many offers.

BOMBSHELL AT THE CASA ROSADA—PRESIDENT JUAN PERON ANNOUNCES TO A FLABBERGASTED WORLD THAT ARGENTINA HAS FOUND A WAY TO PRODUCE ATOMIC ENERGY BY A NEW, MUCH SIMPLER AND CHEAPER METHOD THAN THAT DEVISED BY ANY OTHER COUNTRY WORKING ON THE PROBLEM: *Right*—The President is seen with Dr. Ronald Richter (wearing spotted tie), the Austrian-born scientist who is now an Argentine citizen and who has apparently played a leading part in the development of the new method, which is said to provide a controlled release of atomic energy without the use of uranium. *Left*—A distant view of the island of Huemul, in Lake Nahuel Huapi, near San Carlo de Bariloche, about 850 miles south-west of Buenos Aires, where the Argentine Government has established its atomic energy pilot plant and has, according to Peron, carried out experiments with considerable success. Scientists all over the world were extremely surprised at the news from Argentina, announced at a Press Conference at the Casa Rosada, Peron's palace, and most of them were inclined to be sceptical. Dr. Richter addressed the audience at the Press Conference, telling reporters that Argentina had the secret of the hydrogen bomb. Later he modified his assertions.

IN THE GLOSTER AIRCRAFT WORKS AT HUCCLECOTE, GLOUCESTERSHIRE, WHERE THE METEOR VIII IS NOW IN LARGE-SCALE PRODUCTION: *Above* and *on left*—Aircraft assembly is seen in progress in this works where Britain's latest jet bombers are being produced for service in the Royal Air Force and the Royal Australian Air Force. The works was recently visited by Mr. George Strauss, Minister of Supply. The Meteor VIII, a direct development from the famous Meteor IV, has already proved its speed, for in 1950 it wrested the 1,000-kilometre closed circuit international speed record from the United States at the first attempt. The plane's average speed exceeded 510 m.p.h. over a distance of about 625 miles. In April 1950 a Meteor VIII also broke the record for a return flight between London and Copenhagen, travelling there and back in 137 minutes. The latest version of the Meteor can climb 30,000 ft. in 6½ minutes.

PRODUCING THE METEOR VIII

Britain's High-speed Jet Interceptors Seen Under Mass Construction at Hucclecote, Gloucestershire

METEORS ON PARADE—GLOSTER JETS SEEN ON THE AIRFIELD AT MORTON VALLANCE, WHERE THEY WERE INSPECTED BY THE MINISTER OF SUPPLY DURING HIS RECENT VISIT TO THE WEST COUNTRY: From the original Meteor Mark I, with its two Rolls-Royce Welland jet units, to the Mark VIII, with its Rolls-Royce Derwent V jets, Martin-Baker ejector seat and other refinements, has represented a decade of continuous and spectacular development. To the Gloster Company belongs the distinction of having been the first in either Britain or the United States to design, build and fly an aircraft propelled by a gas-turbine jet engine.

On an N.S.W. Sheep Station

THE "OTHER SIDE" OF FARMING IN AUSTRALIA

The Sheep Farmers' Problems as Seen in Western Plain Country of the Eastern S

With sky-rocketing wool prices and high w returns, the man on the land would seem living a princely life these days. But his battles nature in some ways have never been harder.

The year 1950, which set a record for wool p was also one of the worst years on record for disease and mortality, and if prices had not been many graziers would have been ruined. In districts, particularly New South Wales, farmers suffered heavy wheat crop losses. Because there been, and still is, talk of the fantastic wool ch (with their release of more money and marked effe the inflationary spiral), it has not been generally k that the primary producer has also been facing staggering problems.

Against the wool cheques and primary pr spirals there have been not only floods, storms, bush and stock disease, but also tremendously increased of production.

The pictures on these pages, which relate t " other side " of farming, were taken at Trangie, a town 328 miles west of Sydney, in the New South W plain country, and one of the wealthiest sheep dis in Australia.

Given his choice between a flood and a drou farmer would choose a drought. In a drought he save some of his sheep by hand feeding, but in a he is helpless. Since 1945 there have been floodings than droughts. In many areas floods

A COMMON SIGHT ON THE WESTERN NEW SOUTH WALES SHEEP STATIONS—CARCASES OF DROWNED SHEEP LYING AROUND TREE ROOTS : The sheep had been trapped in the bog-like ground after heavy rains had flooded the shaded area around the tree roots. The value of the sheep without wool would have been £7. This picture, like the others on these pages, was taken in the Trangie district, some 300 miles west of Sydney, where farmers have recently been faced with almost every natural calamity directed against sheep.

AFTER THE STORM HAD ABATED AND THE FLOOD HAD SUBSIDED—A DESERTED HOMESTEAD IN THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF NEW SOUTH WALES : This was the scene after severe storms and floods had brought heart-breaking havoc to a sheep station homestead. The occupiers saved their lives by climbing a strong tree, from which they were later rescued.

FIVE TIMES WASHED OUT BY RAIN : Sixty miles fencing on this property was damaged by flo no fewer than five times during the same ye

THIS WAS ONCE A TRANGIE FARMER'S WINDMILL : A tangle of junk was all that remained after the windmill had collapsed during recent floods. The cost of replacing a similar 10-ft. windmill would be at least £70 ; that is if they could be bought. At present they are difficult to get. The storms also caused damage to other property.

drowned and killed incalculable numbers of st swept away thousands of pounds-worth of fencing wrecked irreplaceable machinery.

Wages of six men employed to replace netting fencing on one property in the Trangie district ravag by twenty-one floods amount to £24 a day. Imported netting, which is the only type readily available £9 a 100 yards, against £3 a 100 yards for Austra netting. Fierce storms are another cause of destructi They unroof sheds, blow down trees and block co munications. Floods cut off sheep, prevent the receiving attention, and now many are suffering bad from fly attacks. Sheep with the wool scratched their legs up to their shoulders, and trucks left in pa docks where they were bogged six months ago, ta own tales of the battles raged against the floods.

Just when the grazier most needs labour to re right flood ravages he is finding it is almost im to get any. Offers to married couples of a cottage free, with refrigeration, free milk and food and a week, go begging.

THE MENACE FROM RABBITS: A striking contrast between a paddock eaten bare by rabbits and one which is rabbit free. The rabbits usually manage to survive the floods and droughts, and if a farmer is not swift with the repairs to his netted fence the rabbits will soon overrun the property.

Until he gets labour he has to resign himself to the knowledge that his sheep are fly-blown; his lambs' tails should have been cut months ago; grass seeds are setting up poisoning in his sheep, and unchecked growths of camel and caterpillar weed are jaundicing his stock.

Ironically, farmers and graziers in Trangie whose properties were flooded a few months ago are now suffering from water shortages. Rain-water supply, kept in small tanks, is rapidly diminishing, and Australia is not producing enough iron to supply new tanks. To the man on the land whose hours are still from sunrise to sunset this is particularly exasperating. Windmills have been uprooted and wrecked by floods and storms, and farmers cannot pump from dams. While they wait months for new windmills some have to cart their own washing and cooking water from other sources.

Fences levelled by floods let the rabbits into paddocks in thousands. It cost one grazier £1 an acre to clear his property of rabbits. In sixteen months he had 4,000 acres clean; employed two rabbiters to go over it constantly, then three floods washed away his fencing and left him with as many rabbits as he ever had.

Rabbits triumphantly survive the floods and droughts, and steadily eat their way through millions of acres of good grazing country. On one property alone rabbits have eaten out 2,560 acres—more than a quarter of the total acreage. That area could carry 1,700 sheep.

Once a property is free of rabbits the only way to keep it free is to have faultlessly netted fences. Fencing is hard to get; many fences, once they are down, stay down. And the rabbits contrive to increase in numbers. Floods come and go, but the rabbit never lets up.

Rain played havoc with this season's New South Wales wheat harvest. Around Narromine, rainfall leapt from the average 18 ins. to 45 ins. Five days' rain just as the wheat was ripening meant ruination of twelve months' hard work. Great overgrowths of saffron thistle—thistles which grow in thick-matted clusters to a height of 6 ft. with sharp thorns—made stripping doubly hard and in some cases impossible.

Saffron thistle is equally as bad for the grazier. Sheep, particularly blown sheep, stray into it and get lost. Dogs can scent sheep caught in it, but won't go into the sharp-thorned thistle to drive them out. Horses cannot be ridden through it; the thorns tear them till they bleed. Only way to fight the pest is to laboriously hoe it out and burn the seeds. Camel weed and caterpillar weed are also pests.

Labour in the country is just as much a problem to the grazier as it is to the city industrialist. At shearing time he often pays high wages and then sees men start work half-an-hour late, knock off at 4 o'clock on a Friday afternoon, declare dry sheep "wet," and therefore unfit to shear. Go-slow tactics in the shed can cost graziers thousands of pounds.

A new fly menace has now been added to the blow-fly pest. Farmers in the Northern tablelands have reported what seems to be a new and deadlier type of fly which has been killing off sheep by the thousands. It is reported to be a new variety which has only recently been introduced into Australia, and raises a fresh and baffling problem for scientists.

This additional burden could not have come at a worse time, because damp conditions have made the fly pest this season a nightmare. Dubbo Agriculture

THE MENACE FROM WEEDS: Saffron thistle is a big problem for the graziers. Sheep get caught in the thorns and horses cannot be ridden through it. The vast paddock on the left has been cleared of the weed, but that on the right shows how it grows when unchecked. The only sure way of clearing the thistle is by burning the seeds.

RABBITING ON THE FARMLANDS: After being driven into a V-shaped wire-netting cage the rabbits are clubbed and strung across a fence. The hearts, lungs, livers and kidneys of the rabbits are left so that any disease can be detected by the freezing authorities. Several farmers join together during the big drives against the rabbits.

Department sheep expert L. H. Beveridge says 1950 has been the worst year for sheep disease and mortality he can remember.

When sheep are "wet" they are particularly susceptible to fly attack, the danger spots being around the crutch and shoulders. The fly eats through the wool down to the raw flesh, where it will, if unchecked, eat the sheep to death. Normal precautions taken against fly are crutching, mulesing and cutting off the lambs' tails. Many lambs should have had tails removed last July, but because they have been isolated through floods they have missed this precaution.

A FARMER EXAMINES A FLY-BLOWN SHEEP: Flies have eaten right through the wool to the raw flesh and maggots are already swarming in the wounds. Sheep in this condition die in a week unless they are attended to at once.

"THEY 'RE OFF"—THE START OF THE FLAT-RACING SEASON, NOT AT LINCOLN, THE HISTORIC VENUE, BUT KEMPTON PARK: Here the field is getting under way as the tapes go up for the first race, a five-furlong affair with thirteen runners. The winner was Ballysana, ridden by Douglas Smith, one of the most successful jockeys of recent years. Later on the opening day Lord Sefton's Titian won the 2,000 Guineas Trial Stakes, and Lord Rosebery's Paradiso, appropriately enough, won the Rosebery Stakes. The meeting at Lincoln did not start until Thursday of last week, and the Lincolnshire Handicap, usually the first important race of the season, was held last Saturday.

THE ROYAL ACADEMY SELECTION COMMITTEE IN SESSION AT BURLINGTON HOUSE: Members of the Committee passing judgment on one of the pictures submitted for adjudication for the Summer Exhibition. From left to right are: James Woodford, R.A.; Gilbert Spencer, A.R.A.; Charles Cundall, R.A.; J. R. Skeapine, A.R.A.; T. C. Dugdale, R.A.; Sir Gerald Kelly, Academy President; Henry Lamb, R.A.; A. R. Middleton Todd, R.A.; E. Le Bas, A.R.A.; William McMillan, R.A. (obscured), and (right) Malcolm Osborne, R.A.

AT WORK AMID THE MUD IN THE BATTERSEA PLEASURE GARDENS, WHERE OPERATIONS ARE A MONTH BEHIND SCHEDULE: Two workers wading through the mud at the west end of the site, where they have had to combat the most difficult conditions following the unprecedented rain of the last six months. The question arises, can the men who are working night and day on the site make up for lost time? Not only have the buildings to be completed by May 3, but flower-beds and lawns have to be planted and laid out. A dozen vehicles similar in design to petrol tankers have been engaged in pumping sludge from the site.

FROM LONDON AND THE PROVINC

A Survey of the Home News in Pictures as Winter Turns to Spring

A CZECH ENVOY SEEKS ASYLUM IN ENGLAND: Dr. Kratochvil, former Czechoslovakian Ambassa[dor] India, and his wife and child, seen on arri[val] Euston Station from Liverpool. They fled fro[m] after the Ambassador had received a recall [order] from Prague. He arrived at Liverpool on the *Jal Azad* under the name of "Mr. Smith." [The] has granted Dr. Kratochvil a visa and will g[rant] difficulties in his way. It is understood [that] Kratochvil, who is a friend of Vladimir Clementis, the [Czech] Foreign Minister, has said in a letter of resignation [that he] is going to protest against the way in which Czecho[slovakia] and her people are being exploited, and because the [country] has lost its independence. "Now I am here," he said [in an] interview following arrival, "I shall try to earn my [living] and shall continue to fight for a free Czechoslovakia. [I am] going to try to inform British public opinion. . . . [I] point out that social betterment is impossible if you [put] into mental prisons. For the second time my country [must] set an example. In 1938 it proved that Adolf Hitler [and] were not his deeds, and the same applies to the Russians.

THE REGILDED FIGURE OF PALLAS ATHENE, ON THE PORCH OF LONDON'S ATHENÆUM CLUB, NOW REVEALED IN ALL ITS PRISTINE GLORY: The figure has been regilded at the cost of a private member whose identity has not been revealed. It was in 1947 that the [club] was repainted for the first time since 1939, but at that time regilding the statue was not possible nor was the repainting of the blue background of the elegant frieze. In the 1950 repainting the frieze was again picked out in contrasting colour. The Athenæum Club, London's most exclusive club, was founded in 1824, and since then it has numbered among its members nearly every Prime Minister (although Gladstone was a notable exception), most of the Archbishops and most of the judges. About seventy of its members have been buried in Westminster Abbey, and about thirty in St. Paul's. The club has always been one of strict convention

PREPARING FOR A "FESTIVAL CROSSING" OF THE ATLANTIC: Stanley Smith, one of the Smith brothers who in 1949 crossed the Atlantic in the *Nova Espero* from Halifax, Nova Scotia, to Dartmouth, is seen at work on his 20-ft. yacht at his father's yards in Yarmouth, Isle of Wight, where he is preparing for another trip across the Atlantic. When this picture was taken Smith was engaged in building larger accommodation space in the *Nova Espero*. Thirty-two-year-old Stanley Smith's new partner for the Atlantic crossing will be Charles Violet, a Worcester schoolmaster and amateur yachtsman. They plan to sail for New York from the South Bank Exhibition site later this year.

THREE MEN IN A BOAT—A PROPOSED VOYAGE FROM ENGLAND TO TASMANIA: The three men are: Dennis Tanner (aloft), a twenty-nine-year-old ex-Army Sergeant of Southborne; twenty-seven-year-old ex-Royal Artillery and Royal Air Force officer Bill Bartlett, of Slough, Bucks. (right); and thirty-six-year-old Eddie Mossop (left), a former Naval officer of Christchurch, Hampshire. They plan to leave their present mooring at Christchurch within the near future and sail their 32-ft. ketch-rigged yacht *Katwinchar* 12,000 miles across the Atlantic and the Pacific on an emigration voyage to Tasmania. The voyage is expected to take nine months and their route will be via Madeira, Trinidad, the Panama Canal and then on to Sydney.

A HOME IN AN ANCIENT MONUMENT—THE LIVING-ROOM AT FIFTEENTH-CENTURY WOLSEY TOWERS, ESHER, SURREY, THE HOME OF THE PIPERS: Mrs. Piper and her daughter Ruth are seen in a room of the house, which has been scheduled for listing by the Ministry of Works, as an ancient monument. It was bought by Mr. Piper two years ago when he wished for a secluded house where he would be able to write in peaceful surroundings. This has not proved so, as sightseers have, without the knowledge that they are trespassing on private property, entered the house in order to begin a tour of inspection. Once one such visitor who had walked in listened to Mrs. Piper's description of her home and then tipped her 2s. 6d.!

THIS HOUSE MAY FALL INTO THE RIVER STOUR 40 FT. BELOW: Kidderminster, Worcestershire, Rural Council are faced with the problem of rehousing the occupants of this house which is in danger of slipping off a precipice and falling into the swollen river, seen in the foreground. The house, Brynstour, is occupied by Mr. Alfred Bucknall, and in recent weeks the river bank has crumbled and the garden wall and backyard of the house have disappeared into the river. It is built on a shelf of rock sloping towards the river at an angle of 45 degrees and the danger is that the house will now slip off the rock.

A NEW MISTRESS FOR INVERARAY CASTLE

The Wedding of the Duke of Argyll

THE MARRIAGE OF THE ELEVENTH DUKE OF ARGYLE: The Duke leaving Caxton Hall Register Office, London, with his bride, Mrs. Margaret Sweeney, after their marriage there a few days before Easter. The bride, the former wife of the American golfer, Charles Sweeney, is the Duke's third wife. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Whigham.

PIPED INTO THE GROUNDS OF THE DUKE'S HIGHLAND SEAT, AT INVERARAY CASTLE, ARGYLE: Donald M'Arthur, of Inveraray the Duke's own piper, leads the newly-wedded couple through the castle grounds.

OVER THE THRESHOLD OF THE CASTLE: The Duke carries his thirty-eight-year-old bride into the historic stronghold of the Chiefs of Clan Campbell, following their arrival there from the London wedding ceremony.

THE CASTLE DOG GREETS ITS NEW MISTRESS: The new Duchess of Argyle, whose former marriage was dissolved in 1947, was presented at Court in 1931. The Duke's first marriage was dissolved in 1934 and his second only a short while ago. He is the son of the late Douglas Walter Campbell (grandson of the eighth Duke), and was born in Paris in June, 1903. He succeeded the tenth Duke in 1949.

THE STRATFORD FESTIVAL SEASON OPENS WITH MICHAEL REDGRAVE IN THE NAME-PART OF "RICHARD II"—THIS IS THE FIRST OF A CYCLE OF SHAKESPEARE'S HISTORICAL PLAYS AND WILL BE FOLLOWED BY "HENRY IV," PARTS ONE AND TWO, AND "HENRY V": In the centre of the gallery of the permanent set of the inn-yard, designed by Tanya Moiseiwitsch, is Michael Redgrave. In the centre, below, William Fox, as Mowbray, faces Harry Andrews as Bolingbroke.

A NEW INTERPRETATION OF RICHARD II

The Festival Season Opens at Stratford

The Shakespeare Memorial Theatre has been enlarged at a cost of £80,000, which has been allocated from the profits of the last three seasons and the anticipated increased profits in the future, obtained from the greater seating capacity and higher prices of certain seats. There are now 135 more seats in the auditorium. The season opened with a generally acclaimed success for Anthony Quayle, the director, and for Michael Redgrave, whose effeminate tyrannical Richard is a new interpretation of the part.

"THAT HAND SHALL BURN IN NEVER-QUENCHING FIRE THAT STAGGERS THUS MY PERSON": Richard II (Michael Redgrave) is stabbed to death by Exton (William Squire) in the last act of the play, in the dungeon of the castle.

RICHARD II TAKES LEAVE OF HIS QUEEN: Heather Stannard plays the Queen. She is the twenty-two-year-old actress who was in a repertory company when Sir Laurence Olivier chose her for the leading part in Christopher Fry's *Venus Observed*.

THE CITY OF CAMBRIDGE FROM THE AIR: This view of the famous centre of learning, upon which the King has conferred the dignity and title of City, shows on the left the waters of the River Cam. The large buildings in the left centre of the picture, with lawns sloping down to the river, are King's College and King's College Chapel, and the quadrangular building nearby is Clare. Near the foreground in the centre is the Fitzwilliam Museum, housing one of the most valuable art collections in England. The first charter was officially conferred on the Borough of Cambridge by King John in 1201. It was in the thirteenth century also that the existence of a body of students in Cambridge constituted the beginnings of the University.

THE SENATE HOUSE, WHERE THE GRADUATION CEREMONIES AND OTHER PUBLIC UNIVERSITY FUNCTIONS ARE HELD: The Senate House was built by James Gibbs in 1722-30, and contains some fine wood and plaster work. The Council of the Senate of the University is the body through which all legislative proposals must pass.

CAMBRIDGE BECOMES A CITY

THE KING CONFERS A NEW TITLE AND DIGNITY UPON THE UNIVERSITY BOROUGH

A Special "Sphere" Section Depicting Some of the Glories of Cambridge

In Cambridge to-day both town and gown have reason to celebrate the news that the King has conferred upon the borough the dignity and title of City, a result of a petition by the Cambridge Council. The new dignity comes 750 years after King John granted the first charter to Cambridge, a grant made at a time when Cambridge had an important river trade and its fairs were famous. Earlier than that there had been a Saxon town of Grantabrycge, which, in turn, had occupied the site of the Camoboritum of the Romans.

As distinguished from the University it would be hard to say that the new city had many features of vast interest, for the majority of the principal buildings are those of the colleges, libraries and museums which go to make this great seat of learning. It is these buildings then that inevitably attract the visitor, and there should be visitors in plenty this year to the new city, for Cambridge is playing a full part in the Festival of Britain, having devised an elaborate programme of her own.

Exactly when Cambridge University came into being is not known, but early in the thirteenth century, not long after John granted the charter, there was evidence of a considerable student body in Cambridge. Certainly by 1231 this body was sufficiently important to cause Henry III to issue injunctions relating to student life. The University as a whole was loosely knit in those days, and town and gown riots were frequent. The disciplinary problem did not indeed begin to be solved until the foundation of the first college, Peterhouse,

(*Continued on following page*)

JESUS COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE, IN ITS LEAFY SETTING: Jesus College was founded in 1497 (after the Benedictine nunnery of St. Radegund had been suppressed) by the Bishop of Ely, John Alcock, whose crest, a cock standing on a globe, a rebus on his name, will be seen on the entrance gate and elsewhere. The proportions of the founder's distinctive gateway, on the left of the group of buildings, were much injured by the third storey added to the chambers in 1718. On the northern side is the hall, which is almost certainly the refectory of the nunnery of St. Radegund.

GREAT ST. MARY'S, THE UNIVERSITY CHUR CAMBRIDGE: Great St. Mary's is in the Pe cular style, parts of the building datin 1478. Every day from 9 to 9.15 p.m. the bells is rung to indicate the day month. The new City of Cambridge ha notable churches, including St. Benet's, pre-Norman tower, and the Church of t Sepulchre, one of England's four round c

ST. CATHARINE'S COLLEGE, FOUNDED IN 1475, THE ORIGINAL BUILDINGS OF WHICH HAVE ENTIRELY DISAPPEARED: Rebuilding took place at the end of the seventeenth and the beginning of the eighteenth centuries. Dr. Eachard was the Master mainly responsible. By no means richly endowed at its foundation, St. Catharine's had a lucky windfall when Dr. Gosling, a Master of Caius, left the adjoining piece of land on which is situated the Bull Inn. The Fellows of his own college were mortified at losing this property, and Bishop Browne, the historian of Caius, relates that for years afterwards there was a toast at Caius "to the unhappy memory of Dr. Gosling, who was such a goose as to leave the Bull to Catharine."

THE GATE OF HONOUR AT CAIUS COLLEGE: Caius (more properly Gonville and Caius, was foun 1348 by Edmund Gonville and refound Dr. John Caius in 1557. The 600th ann celebrations took place in 1948, and were re in "The Sphere" of September 11 of that The College was formerly entered on the east from Street, by the Gate of Humility, but this was removed when the present grandiose block of building erected. The Gate of Honour was originally for the exclusive use of students on completion studies, the idea being that they should pass th en route to receive their degrees in the schools directly opposite. Some of the original embellis have worn away from this massive gate. John who erected the gates, was an eminent physici scholar. His sympathies led him into many d and resulted eventually in his dismissal fro post of Royal Physician.

THE MAIN COURT OF CHRIST'S COLLEGE, SHOWING THE MASTER'S LODGE ON THE LEFT AND THE HALL ON THE RIGHT: The 500th anniversary of the founding of this College has just been celebrated. Like St. John's, it was founded by the Lady Margaret, Countess of Richmond, who absorbed in her new college an older institution called God's House, which a devout parson, William Bingham, had originated about 1442. The Master's Lodge has an old stone fireplace decorated with Lady Margaret's arms. The hall was entirely rebuilt in 1846, but parts of the original structure were retained. The old-world garden is one of the delights of this college. The rooms which the poet, John Milton, is said to have occupied, can still be seen by visitors. They are on the left of the front court.

CAMBRIDGE BECOMES A CITY

(*Continued from previous page*)

by Hugh de Balsham, Bishop of Ely, in 1284. The leges of the University began to grow apace from time, and were confirmed by the Pope, John XX 1317. From the fourteenth century new colleges successively founded, Clare, Pembroke, Gonville Caius, Trinity Hall, and Corpus Christi follow succession to Peterhouse.

At the time of the founding of the Univ Cambridge was not one of the great medieval t but, as has already been pointed out, it was a pl considerable importance as a trading centre, to its accessibility by road and river.

THE COLLEGE WHICH COMMEMORATES QUEEN MARGARET OF ANJOU AND ELIZABETH WOODVILLE, CONSORT OF EDWARD IV: Because of this link with two Queens, Queens' College is written with the apostrophe after the "s." The College was founded in 1447 by Andrew Dokett, who secured the patronage of Queen Margaret. It was after the Lancastrian dynasty fell that Elizabeth Woodville became the refounder in 1465. The wooden bridge shown in this picture crosses the Cam from the Cloister Court to the College gardens. The bridge was built in 1867, and is a replica of the original built in 1749. In June 1948, on the 500th anniversary of the College, the Queen paid a visit to Queens'. The connection of Erasmus with the College forms a proud chapter in its history.

ONE OF THE GREAT ARCHITECTURAL GLORIES OF CAMBRIDGE: King's College Chapel is generally regarded as the finest example of Perpendicular architecture in England, and is world famous for the early sixteenth-century coloured-glass in its vast area of window space. Other features are the wonderful stone roof with fan tracery and the magnificent organ screen of Italian workmanship erected when Anne Boleyn was Queen. Apart from its chapel, the actual buildings of King's College are comparatively modern, belonging for the most part to the nineteenth century. The hall, built in 1824, was modelled on Crosby Hall. King's is connected with Eton, the arms of the College being the same as those of the public school.

SIDNEY SUSSEX COLLEGE: This was founded in 1596 by the bequest of Frances, Countess of Sussex, daughter of Sir William Sidney of Penshurst. The present buildings were designed by Ralph Symons in the sixteenth century, but they were much altered and extended in the nineteenth century by Sir Jeffry Wyatville. The beautiful gardens are part of the old grounds of the friary.

THE CAMBRIDGE COLLEGE WHICH HAS THE APPEARANCE OF A RENAISSANCE PALACE: Clare College has the unique distinction of having been originally founded by the University itself, having originated in 1326 as University Hall. After struggling on without resources for a dozen years it was refounded by Lady Elizabeth de Clare. The present buildings were begun in 1638, and the court was not completed until 1715. There is a tradition that Inigo Jones was the author of these buildings

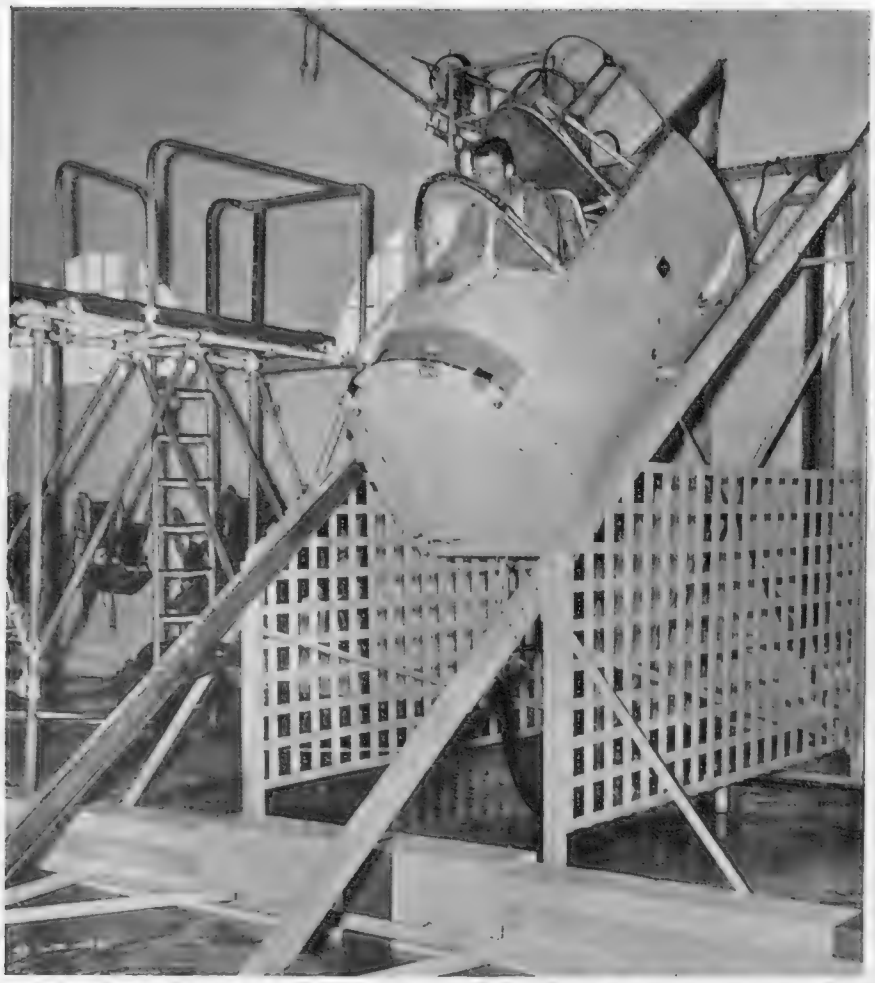
Stourbridge Fair, held on the outskirts of the town from August 24 to September 28, in later times became the greatest fair in England, if not in Europe, and for one month in the year Cambridge was the centre of attraction for traders of every kind. The town was therefore wealthy and cosmopolitan—a place for the free exchange of ideas as well as of goods, and it had the peculiar advantage of possessing no cathedral or great monastery. In such cities as Norwich and Lincoln, Peterborough and St. Albans, all teaching was jealously controlled by the clergy of the cathedral or the monks of the abbey. In those cities a corporate body of university teachers, privileged and free from outside constraint, would have found it hard, nay, impossible, to flourish. Cambridge, therefore, was fertile soil for the spread of learning, and so a small body of long-forgotten enthusiasts brought into being a university which by the time of Henry III was flourishing, although not perhaps of the same sturdy growth as the university planted a generation earlier at Oxford.

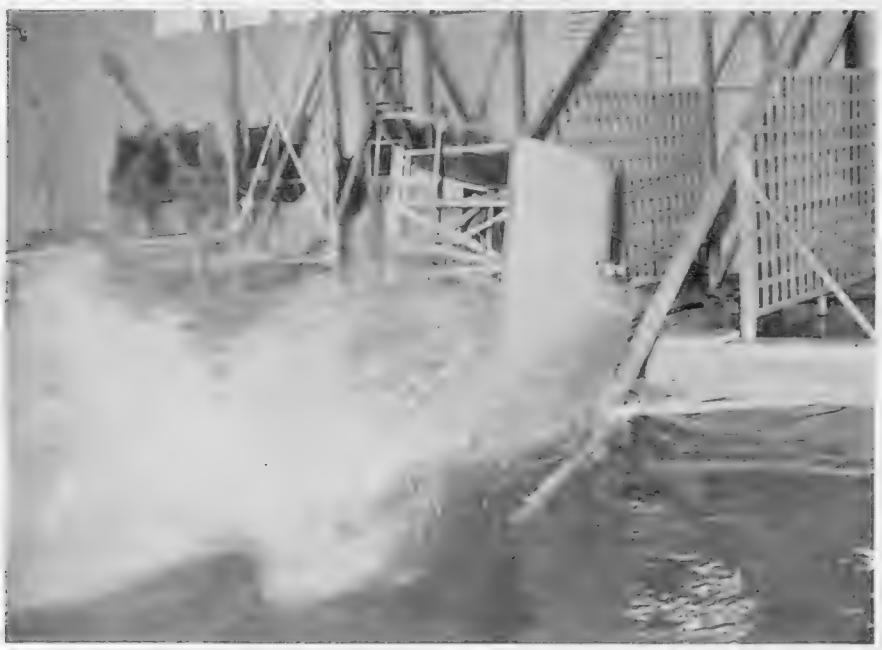
From the fourteenth century onwards the history of Cambridge is really the history of her colleges, and on these pages are recorded some of the great colleges which make up the city to-day. It is an assembly of buildings unrivalled in any other place save Oxford. To the oft-repeated question regarding which of the two places is the more beautiful there can be no adequate answer. Both cities are immensely rich in their architectural heritage; both possess modern industrial and domestic dwellings which are a blot upon their beauty. Adherents of Cambridge will always be able to point to the superb loveliness of the Backs, the splendour of King's College Chapel, and the beauty of brickwork which is in such marked contrast to the grey monotony of Oxford's stone. But comparisons are without point, and the cities upon Cam and Isis each, in their several ways, have their own deep hold upon the affections of the English-speaking peoples.

THE BRIDGE OF SIGHS AT ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE: St. John's occupies the site of the still more ancient Hospital of St. John, which was established in 1135. The College was founded in 1511 by Lady Margaret Beaufort, Countess of Richmond, mother of Henry VII, and the memory of the foundress is kept ever fresh by the Lady Margaret Boat Club, said to be the oldest of all the Cambridge college clubs. The Bridge of Sighs leads across the river to New Court. The bridge is not ancient, dating from 1826, the year in which construction began on the New Court.

AVIATION TIDINGS FROM THE UNITED STATES AND THE DOMINI

Trying Out the "Dilbert Dunker" When Training for Air-Sea Self-R
A First Crossing of the South Pacific Ocean



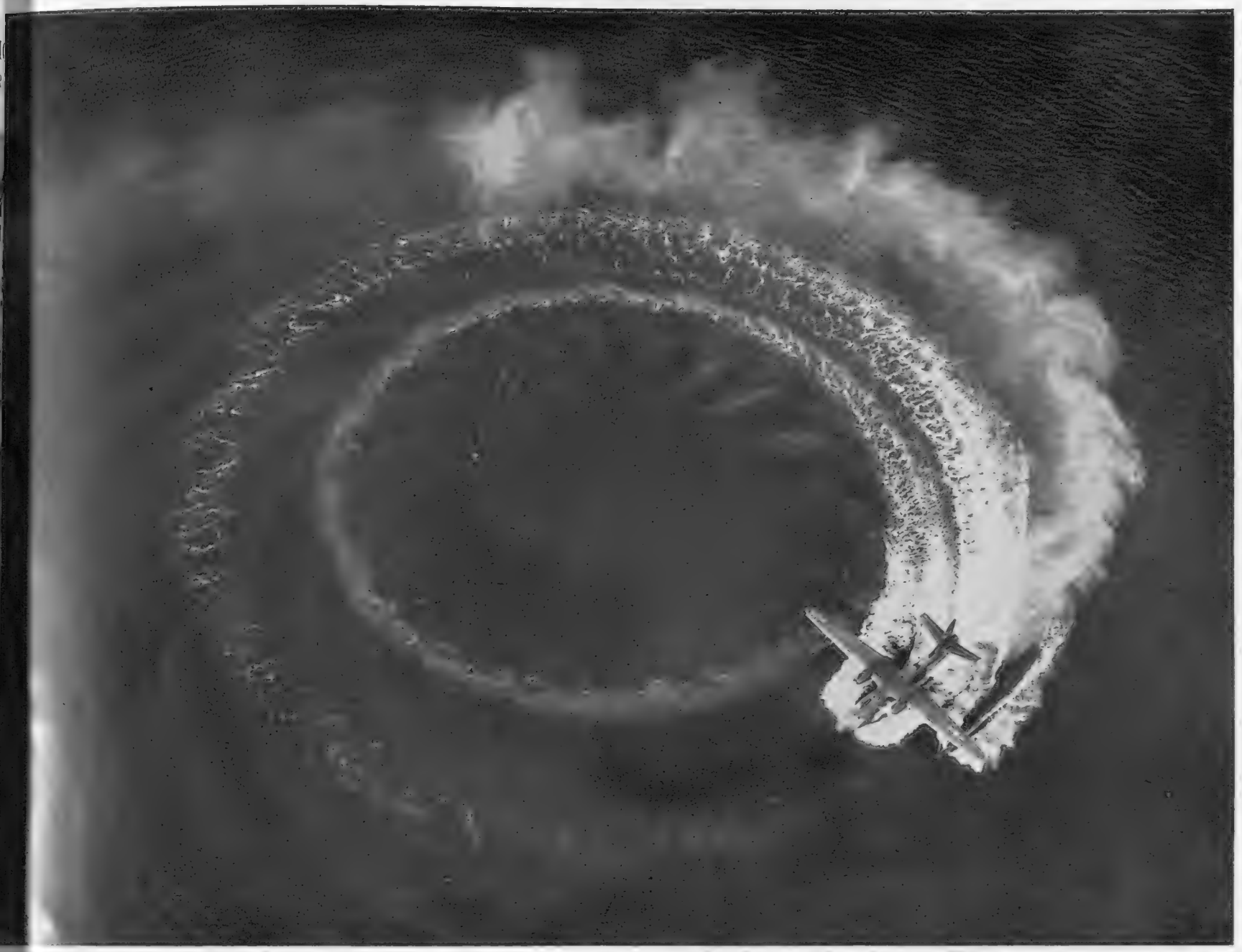


A PILOT LEARNS TO ESCAPE WITH RAPIDITY WHEN INVOLVED IN A PLANE CRASH AT SEA: In the pictures *above* and *at top*, taken at Pensacola Air Station, Florida, a trainee is seen using the "Dilbert Dunker." He is shown at the head of the chute and at the moment of plunging into the water, when he must carry out certain high-speed drill if he is not to be sucked right beneath the water.

CANADA'S "OVER THE POLE" JET FIGHTER, THE AVRO CF 100: This high-speed plane, known as the Canuck, is the first long-range, all-weather day and night fighter of its type in the world and the first front-line fighter to be designed and built in Canada. It has been specially developed for Arctic combat and Canadian defence. Performance is secret, but the Canadians claim that it is the world's most powerful fighter. It is now in production at the Avro works, Malton, near Toronto. The CF 100 is a twin-engined fighter. It is 52 ft. 6 ins. long, 52 ft. in span and 10 ft. 7 ins. high. It will be demonstrated in England by the R.A.F. at Boscombe Down, following which it may be sent on a European tour. The prototype is fitted with two Rolls-Royce Avon axial flow turbo-jet engines, but it is intended that two Avro Orenda engines will ultimately power this aircraft.

SIMULATING A CRASH AT SEA AT PENSACOLA AIR STATION, FLORIDA—A PILOT D STRATING ESCAPE DRILL BY SLOW-MOTION ACTION IN THE "DILBERT D WHICH HAS JUST BEEN PROJECTED INTO THE WATER: He is using thi ment to show spectators the approved drill for getting out of pilot's before swimming away to safety from a crashed aircraft. His shoulder b of nylon, and, if properly adjusted, it will minimise the chances that th will hit the dashboard at the moment of impact with the sea. He must quick in detaching himself if he is not to sink with the plane. Practic "Dilbert Dunker" gives the pilot confidence, and it is hoped that this a will play a major part in saving life among pilots of carrier-borne

"KON TIKI" IN REVERSE—THE FRIGATE "BIRD III" SETS OUT FROM ROSE SYDNEY HARBOUR, ON THE FIRST AERIAL CROSSING OF THE SOUTH PACI VALPARAISO, CHILE: Captain P. G. (Bill) Taylor, the well-known aviator co of the late Kingsford Smith, piloted the flying-boat on its 8,000-mile journ Suva, Fiji and Easter Island, and he had with him a crew of four. In this s the air route Captain Taylor carried with him 3,000 letters of philatelic mail, all bearing imprints. Taylor will always be remembered for the magnificent feat which w the George Cross when navigating Kingsford Smith to New Zealand in a three- Fökker. One wing engine went out of action, and the other began to lose oil. then climbed out on the struts on the side of the "dead" engine, drained off and then climbed out on the other side, transferring the oil to the other engi Thermos flask at a time. He is one of the world's finest pilots and navigators. In flew a Catalina from Bermuda across Mexico to Australia to pioneer a ne



SHO -RADIUS TURN DEMONSTRATED BY THE FIRST TWIN-ENGINED FLYING-BOAT DEVELOPED FOR THE U.S. NAVY SINCE THE WAR: The Martin P5M-1, prototype of the arlin flying-boats being built by the Glenn L. Martin Company for the U.S. Navy seen demonstrating a short-radius turn through use of its new hydroflaps. ydroflaps are underwater rudders and braking apparatus developed by Martin engineers to ke possible quick turns and faster manœuvring in restricted waters. The flaps are located each side of the plane's hull near the stern. They are operated from the cockpit through hydraulic system and may be used separately or together, when braking action is desired. The hydroflap angle may be set as much as 65 deg., as in this picture, when the radius is about one and one-half times the wingspan; about one-third of the radius required when turns are made with engines alone. The white circle in the centre of the picture is actually green, being made by a die bag fitted to the flying-boat so that the turning radius can be seen and photographed. The Marlin has been designed especially to seek out and destroy enemy submarines and, electronically, will be among the most completely equipped aircraft in the U.S. Navy. The most characteristic feature of the P5M-1, the successor to the P.B.M. Mariner which was in production for nine years, is the remarkable new hull design. From the shallow Vee-type step aft, the hull is noteworthy for its depth and length. This long afterbody is designed to permit very much safer alightings on rough water, without excessive pitching and bouncing.

E UNITED STATES AIR FORCE'S NEWEST ALL-WEATHER INTERCEPTOR: This is the Northrop Scorpion, or F 89, which is seen banking sharply when heading for a cloud-covered area to test all-weather electronic gear. Nestled amidships beneath the fuselage are the twin-Allison turbo-jets, with after-burner equipment, which give the plane a speed in excess of 600 m.p.h. The U.S. Air Force has announced a heavy production schedule for these Northrop Scorpions. The crew of two in this plane are seated in tandem in a pressurised cockpit. The canopy is power-operated, and ejection seats are provided.

AN ADDITIONAL AID FOR THE TRANSPORTATION OF THE WOUNDED BY AIR—A NEW STRETCHER-LIFT IS DEMONSTRATED AT THE DOUGLAS AIRCRAFT PLANT AT SANTA MONICA, CALIFORNIA: A patient is seen strapped to the electrically-operated stretcher-lift as it is raised to the doorway of the C 54 military transport during the demonstration. The lift, which can be stored in the aeroplane and which it is claimed may be put into operation within a minute, takes two patients. The single arm of the lift swings through an arc ending 30 ins. from the ground and 30 ins. from the plane floor.

THE LYRE BIRD of the AUSTRALIAN BUSH

The Rarely-seen Male Specimen from which the Genus Derive Their Name

Australia's lyre bird is beautiful both in voice and in appearance, but it is only on rare occasions that he is heard and still rarer that he is seen. There are few photographs of the bird, since it takes infinite patience and a great deal of luck to get them. He is at once the most ostentatious and the most retiring virtuoso. Before his chosen and adoring audience of a lyre bird hen or two he will strut and warble his best for hour after hour. At the least hint of an attempt from outside to gate-crash the select audience he grows silent, and withdraws.

The lyre birds of Australia have no near relations anywhere in the world. They are a single family (Menura) and they are to be found only in the hills and bush of South-Eastern Australia. When they were first discovered, round about 1799, they were called "birds of paradise of New South Wales," and at later dates "native" or "mountain" pheasant; and indeed, in their size and with their long legs they have some superficial resemblance to pheasants. For a long time now the name lyre bird has been the only one used, and it comes from the shape of the male's tail feathers which, when raised, are remarkably like the framework of a lyre. The female has a long tail of normal feathers. Between the lyre feathers the male carries a fan of lacy white feathers, which he spreads and displays with peacock vanity.

The lyre bird's best performance is a song-and-dance number. With his powerful claws he clears small circular places in the scrub and scratches up a low mound of earth for use as a stage. On this mound he struts and prances, spreads his tail, and sings. He is without question one of the most gifted of all bird singers. His notes are peculiarly liquid and melodious, and his song has remarkable variations. He is like a virtuoso improvising on a theme. With his own he mingles imitations of the songs of other birds and of every kind of bush noise. He takes the song of the thrush, the chatter of the wren, the laugh of the kookaburra, and weaves them into his song, adding flourishes and elaborations of his own devising. He can imitate the wail of the circular saw in the forest saw mill and the shriek of the mill whistle. He will bark like a farmyard dog, reproduce the gentle gurgling of a mountain creek, the resonant thud of the tree-feller's axe and the knocking in of nails. He takes off all these sounds perfectly . . . only human speech eludes him; or perhaps he is not interested and does not try.

THE BEAUTIFUL BIRD OF THE BUSH—THE MALE SPECIMEN OF THE LYRE BIRD: The two lyre feathers, the twelve filamentary feathers and the two plumes in the centre can be clearly seen. It is from this extraordinary development of the tail that the birds derive their name. The bird is a native of New South Wales.

THE MALE BIRD TAKES THE "STAGE"—TWO MORE PICTURES OF THE RARELY SEEN AUSTRALIAN LYRE BIRD: These show the male bird during one of his "displays" on his self-made "stage." The birds spend the greater part of their time in the denser parts of the South-Eastern Australian bush where they feed upon small insects and snails. They are by far the largest of all song birds. The remarkable tail spread of the male lyre bird measures from 5 ft. to 5 ft. 6 ins.

The HANGING BOXES of "SOUTH BANKDOM"

The Box-like Structures for the Exhibition Administrative Staff and the Seating Arrangements in the Royal Festival Hall on London's South Bank

Above—**UP IN THE AIR ON THE SOUTH BANK SITE OF THE GREAT EXHIBITION—THE "BOX OFFICES" OF THE FESTIVAL SITE ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF:** So congested is the space on the site of the South Bank Exhibition that the administrative offices have had to be taken up in the air and perched on "stilts." The offices are portable and box-like in shape, and are connected by a glass-sided passage-way. The Festival, which is to be a nation-wide demonstration of Britain's leading achievements in the arts, sciences, technology and industrial design, is due to be opened by the King on May 3.

Below—**UP IN THE AIR IN THE ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL—THE TIERS OF BOXES JUTTING OUT FROM THE WALL:** This picture was taken during the course of one of the acoustic tests in the Hall. In addition to these boxes, there is also a Royal Box and suite, the King having accepted the County Council's offer to place this at his disposal. On other occasions, when the ceremonial box is not being used by Royalty, it will be available to the Chairman of the L.C.C. for the entertainment of official guests. The first official concert available to the public will be given on May 4, admission to the inaugural concert on the previous evening being by invitation only.

The World of Books—By VERNON FANE

"THE MAN WHO LIVED BACKWARD"

Mr. Malcolm Ross's Novel About an American Who Was Born in 1940 and Died Attempting to Save the Life of Abraham Lincoln

THE MAN WHO LIVED BACKWARD (Gollancz. 12s. 6d.) is Mr. Malcolm Ross's novel about an American gentleman who was born in 1940 and died in an attempt to save Abraham Lincoln from assassination. It is an extraordinarily ingenious idea, and for at least half its length the book is both diverting and stimulating. Its weakness is possibly the author's determination to cram so many windy discussions of so many events in American history into the compass of a few hundred pages. For Mr. Ross deals with United States policy in the Far East, the labour riots in Pittsburgh in the '90's, an experiment in Christian communism, Negro slavery, and the career of Walt Whitman, which was quite an event in itself, and deals with them by the device of long and impossibly articulate conversations between his retrogressively ageing hero and the various sets of well-informed contemporaries he acquires from decade to decade. Nevertheless, to Mr. Ross goes the credit for an original idea, carefully expounded.

The Polish tragedy has been expressed, over and over again, in history, and it has been shown, too, in the lives of individuals with enough of the spirit of Poland in their own characters to be representative of the country they so passionately love. THE PROUD LADY (Collins. 10s. 6d.) is a novel of considerable merit, written, incidentally, by an Australian, Helen Heney, which tells the story of a beautiful Polish woman in whom patriotism and a more domestic love burn with equally devouring flames. It is a story that you will want to read slowly and appreciatively for its descriptions of flat but hauntingly lovely countryside, of pre-war Warsaw, and of a group of people who combined in a way that no other nation seems to imitate, passion, dedication to an ideal, capacity for sorrow and exuberant high spirits.

Doris Lessing's volume of short stories, THIS WAS THE OLD CHIEF'S COUNTRY (Michael Joseph. 9s. 6d.), is concerned, as was her admirable first novel, with the South African scene in many of its aspects. Although varied enough to give the collection freshness and to show a lively invention, most of the stories have a tacit theme of conflict, whether between the white settlers and farmers and the native Africans, or between the farmers and the hostile earth which they must subdue and cultivate in order to live.

The next batch of novels also deals with scenes far from the tame and the domestic. First of all, INHERIT THE NIGHT (Robert Hale. 12s. 6d.), in which Mr. Robert Christie writes of a village hidden high up in the Andes, and of a stranger with a German name who demands to be taken there, although he is told that no one has ever returned from such a journey. Finally he bribes a guide and sets out, carrying a heavy revolver and a newspaper cutting which reads: "Enemy Leader Dies in Besieged City." The novel is concerned with this man's impact on a hitherto idyllic community.

FOR PASSION IS DARKNESS (Cassell. 9s. 6d.) tells of a different South Africa from Miss Lessing's, for this romance by Miss Thirza Nash is concerned with a town by the sea in Cape Colony, and with the gossip, chit-chat, civic improvements and love life of the town's most prominent citizens, who include a lovely lady Mayoress. Municipal heart-throbs, in fact, and in quite a big way.

Mr. James Norman Hall, who was part-author of *The Mutiny on the Bounty*, has written a kind of Polynesian Odyssey in THE FAR LANDS (Faber. 12s. 6d.), which is an imaginative account of a voyage said to have been made thousands of years ago in open canoes across the Pacific and celebrated to this day in legends and songs. In these, the journey is said to have been made from a land far to the west in nine ships carrying more than 800 people, and of the few ships that survived, of their crews and their cargo, was set up the beginning of the Polynesian civilisation as it is known to-day. On a subject so close to his heart, for Mr. Hall has known the islands and their people well for thirty years, he writes with an attractive enthusiasm and, as might be expected, with an air of authenticity. The combination is something that I recommend to the armchair traveller, and to all those who enjoy opening a window on a strange new view.

THIS, MY BROTHER (Hodder and Stoughton. 10s. 6d.) is set in Texas in the years since 1914, and is the story of the lifelong friendship of two boys, one of whom grows up to find work after years of economic depression and frustration, in an oil refinery, and the other to take his medical degrees and practise as a doctor. Although they lose sight of each other for some years they meet again as friends in middle life to discover that each has found the consolation of religion. A simple but sincere story by Argye M. Briggs, with the added interest that one of the men is white and the other, the doctor, a Negro.

ONCE A QUEEN UPON THE NILE: Looking in a mirror, the back of which bears a royal crest, is the one-time Queen of Egypt, Princess Djavidan, who at seventy-two years of age is hunting for a job. Born in Philadelphia, she is the widow of the Egyptian Khedive Abbas Hilmi. Now living in a small Paris hotel, the Princess is hoping to get a job as a maid or governess with the idea that, eventually, she will be able to work her way back to her place of birth. The Princess was dethroned as Queen, with her husband, in the Egyptian revolution of 1913. Since then she has lived in Germany, Austria, Switzerland and France.

I think I am breaking no bones when I say that Mr. Albert Guerard's novel, NIGHT JOURNEY (Longmans. 10s. 6d.), is as depressing a volume of contemporary fiction as I have read for some months. It is one of those grimly speculative books in which the scene is A Country, the time The Future, and the protagonists citizens of that country or soldiers of Other Powers. A war is rumbling back and forth across the country, fought by armies which possibly, but not in the least certainly, for that is not Mr. Guerard's way, belong to two other nations. Contradictory directives flow into Corps H.Q. every morning and are laboriously filed, but the official information is that, tanks and guns in action and dead bodies notwithstanding, the war has not yet begun, and nothing more lethal than manœuvres are taking place. The great and obvious merit of this novel must be that it makes war perhaps not as dangerous, but at least as deadly boring as it is in fact.

A friend of mine who is inclined to look down his nose at detective fiction read his first Agatha Christie story this week, and remarked indignantly to me afterwards: "But why didn't you tell me how *good* she was?" In case I have failed in this matter elsewhere, I should like to say at once and emphatically that the work of Agatha Christie is very good indeed, and that her new book, THEY CAME TO BAGHDAD (Crime Club. 8s. 6d.), is one of her best. This is not concerned with the exploits of any little Belgian sleuths, and is, in fact, rather more an adventure than a detective story, but it has all this master's ingenuity, pace and humour, and I recommend it to you, whether you are already fans and don't need the reminder, or whether you are making your first splendid discovery.

With the housing situation what it is, one would think that a young man would be delighted by the legacy of a big house in one of the Home Counties, but that would be dull fact rather than exciting fiction, and would remove the *raison d'être* of Mr. Victor Bridges' new novel, THE TENTH COMMANDMENT (Macdonald. 8s. 6d.), an enjoyable affair in which horror never gets the upper hand of intelligent, fresh-faced girls and determined young Britons.

NEVER FIGHT A LADY (Hodder and Stoughton. 9s. 6d.) is the unexceptionable sentiment expressed in the title of Mr. Seldon Truss's new novel of crime and detection, and a very competent and even amusing piece of work it is. I enjoyed it, and hope that you may too, with its dark tales of misdoing.

THE TUNNEL (Collins. 10s. 6d.), with Mr. Eric Williams's predecessor, *The Wooden Horse*, and Mr. Brickhill's *The Great Escape*, which I recently reviewed, are all worthy to stand side by side in a collection of war literature, and in that particular and essential part of it which deals with prison camps.

Lord Dowding's book, THE DARK STAR (Museum Press. 8s. 6d.), is in a category which is exceptionally difficult to discuss. This book deals with the author's spiritualistic experiences, his summing-up of them, and, in some sort, his declaration of faith. I can say no more than that every reader must take this in his own way and draw his independent conclusions; nothing else is acceptable.

Mr. Alfred Duggan writes as an archæologist as much as a novelist in CONSCIENCE OF THE KING (Faber. 12s. 6d.), a weighty but to the persevering a worth-while reconstruction of history in England between the years A.D. 450 and A.D. 530. To call it English history would be to over-simplify the author's theme, which is that the founder of Wessex was really a Roman of Britain, that it was from him and from his son that sprang all the Kings of Wessex, later Kings of England, and that the present Royal family of Great Britain are Woden-born Cerdingas. Which, by and large, is quite a theory.

THE PEASANT POET

June Wilson's New Biography of Clare

Our great national heritage of poetry would be the poorer for the absence from it of John Clare, "the Northamptonshire Peasant Poet," for this man of melancholy, who worked at fever pitch, unmindful of time, scorning the niceties of grammar, but beyond doubt with inspiration, was a true poet. The tragedy was that fame, in the shape of curious visitors, broke the tenor of his life and he indulged too freely his convivial habits. Clare, the son of a farm labourer, born at Helpstone, near Peterborough, in 1793, died at Northampton General Lunatic Asylum in May, 1864, very nearly thirty years after the publication of his last and best work, "The Rural Muse." In GREEN SHADOWS (Hodder and Stoughton. 18s.), June Wilson has written an admirable biography of Clare; admirable because it is essentially understanding, seeking no purple passages in the life of this tragic, half-rustic, half-urban figure, who sprung from the countryside and found his joy "in the golden days of autumn, when the larks rose singing from the stubbles" and his true companionship among London intellectuals. Clare belonged, in part, to two worlds, wholly to none. He wrote with a noble simplicity, never perhaps at the highest of levels; his appeal, as he himself said, was "To hearts whose songs are gathered from the field." Most moving of all were the lines he wrote in the asylum, "where there is neither sense of life, nor joys, but the huge shipwreck of my own esteem, and all that's dear." Clare can never be forgotten, for he triumphed over personal tragedy, and even when his mind was in ruins it seemed that he trod in spirit along the mountain-tops.

Gordon Cooper is a worth-while guide as a travel writer He has proved that in earlier volumes, and he proves it again in YOUR HOLIDAY IN FRANCE (Alvin Redman. 8s. 6d.), in which he introduces to the tyro, without forgetting the traveller of some experience, and the well-tried traveller, some of the delights of that pleasurable and infinitely varied land. Mr. Cooper offers one piece of especially sound advice. Don't book accommodation and meals too far ahead and so commit yourself irrevocably before the holiday starts, he says. Once on the spot the traveller may find it profitable to change his ground, and all-in bookings, needless to say, make second thoughts impossible.

Ray Robinson is a pleasant writer on cricket, possessing neither the erudite discursiveness of Neville Cardus, the imagery of C. B. Fry, or the iconoclastic tendencies of Jack Fingleton. In FROM THE BOUNDARY (Collins. 12s. 6d.), this Australian gives pen portraits of many of the great figures of modern cricket, and he is perhaps at his best in his analysis of the duels of the cricket field, when a Bradman and a Bedser are at war between the stumps, when a Barnes is doing his artful dodging, fooling his opponents, his own side and the umpires alike, or a W. A. Johnston is dismissing his enemies by the sheer virtuosity of his flicks of the wrist. *From the Boundary* is an excellent book, and is as near to being up-to-date as publishing conditions allow

A superb book for children, because it has point and purpose, because it is beautifully printed and produced, and because its line drawings by Edward and Stephani Godwin match the simply written text, is Sybil Deucher's THE YOUNG BRAHMS (Faber and Faber. 10s. 6d.). This is the story of the great Johannes Brahms in the days of his youth and childhood. Miss Deucher tells of the first years of Brahms' life in a wretched tenement in the old harbour city of Hamburg, of his father, an irresponsible musician, who kept the boy up at nights playing in low taverns, and of Johannes's swiftly developing love for fine music. The book ends with Johannes at the age of sixteen dedicating a beautiful piece to Lieschen, the lovely daughter of Adolf Giesemann, in whose home he had spent the summer. Despite the squalor and the hardship, it is all very romantic. It is the sort of book to whet the appetite of ardent youth, and there is pleasure in the thought that the carefree aspect of these early years belonged also to Brahms in maturity, and that when Vienna acclaimed him he still retained his freedom unfettered, revealing all the harmonic resources of the Romantic school.

David Dodge, a native of San Francisco and now a resident in Guatemala, who has written four mystery novels, been a night watchman, and helped to stoke a merchant ship, has produced a lively family travelogue in HOW GREEN WAS MY FATHER (Home and Van Thal. 8s. 6d.), in which he produces more tales of Guatemala. There are moments when his slapstick humour can be irresistible.

Ralph Izzard, in THE HUNT FOR THE BURU (Hodder and Stoughton. 15s.), has written an enthralling account of his experiences in Assam upon an expedition ostensibly in search of the fabulous Himalayan monster. He came upon a head-hunting tribe who performed terrifying ancient rituals and surmounted all the usual problems presented by leeches, King cobras, malaria and mosquitoes. As for the buru, the trail was not particularly productive.

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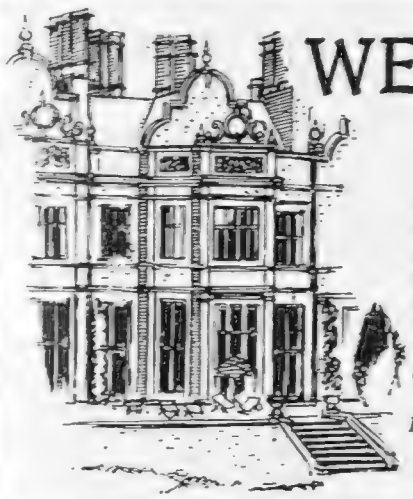

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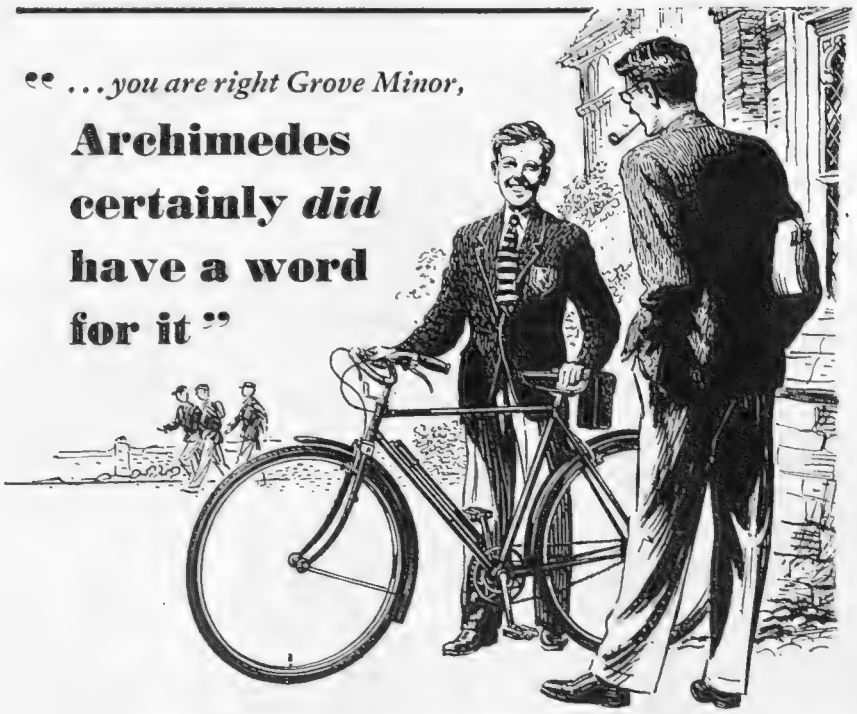

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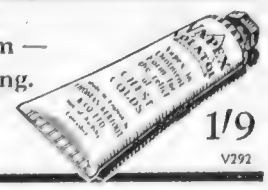

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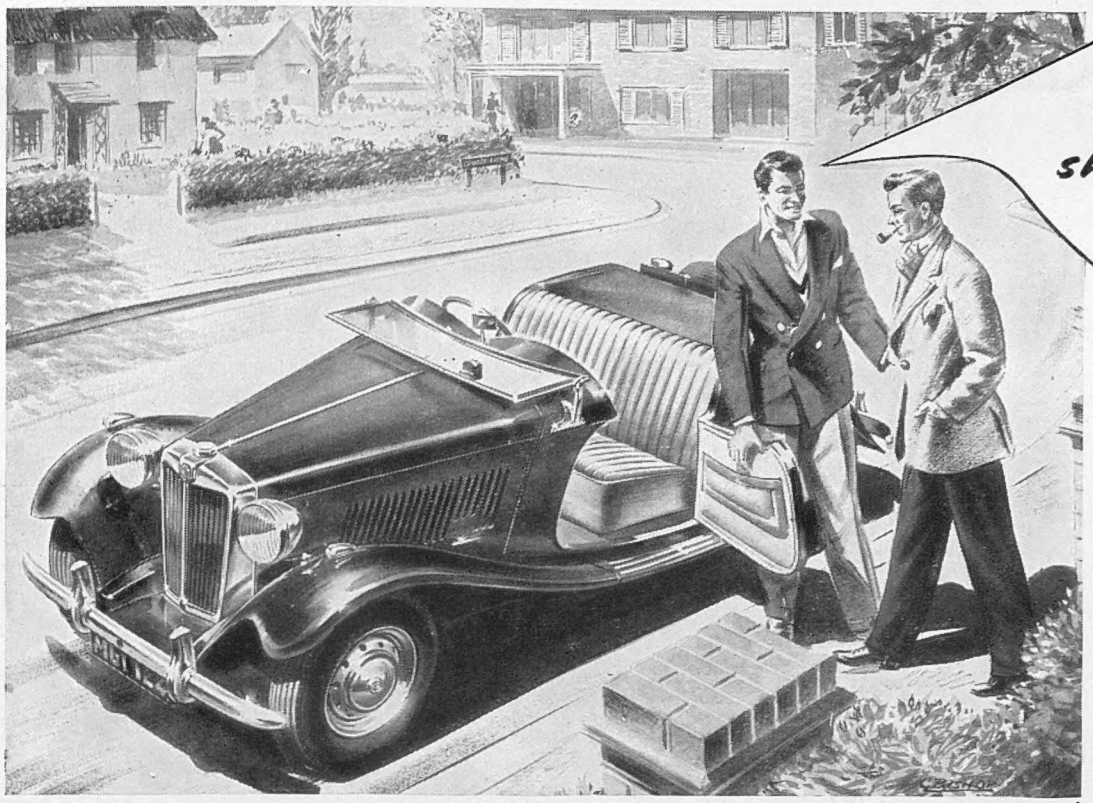

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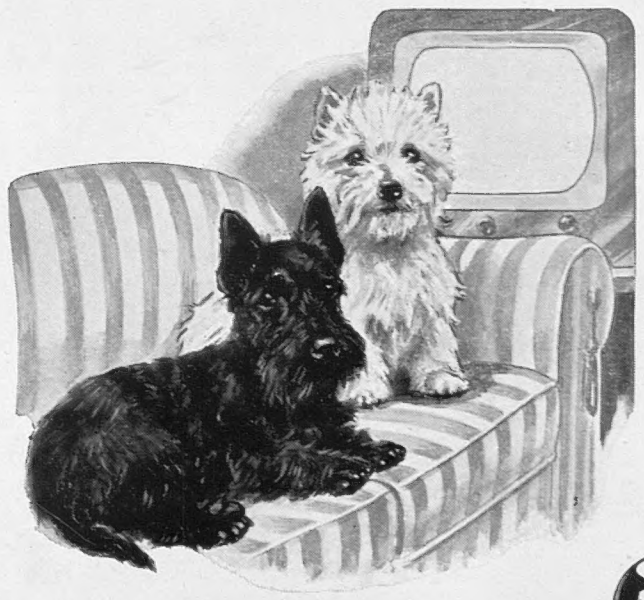

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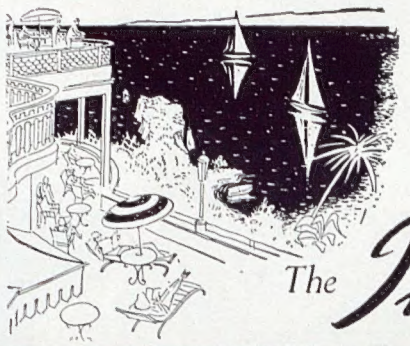

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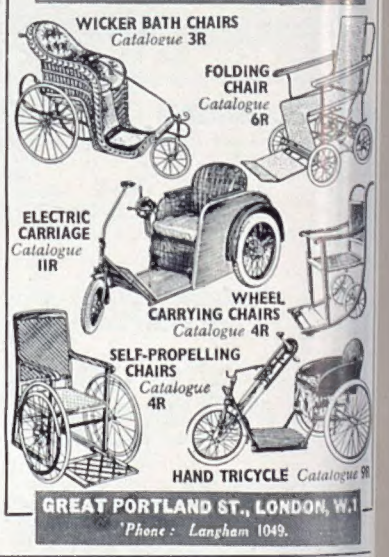

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